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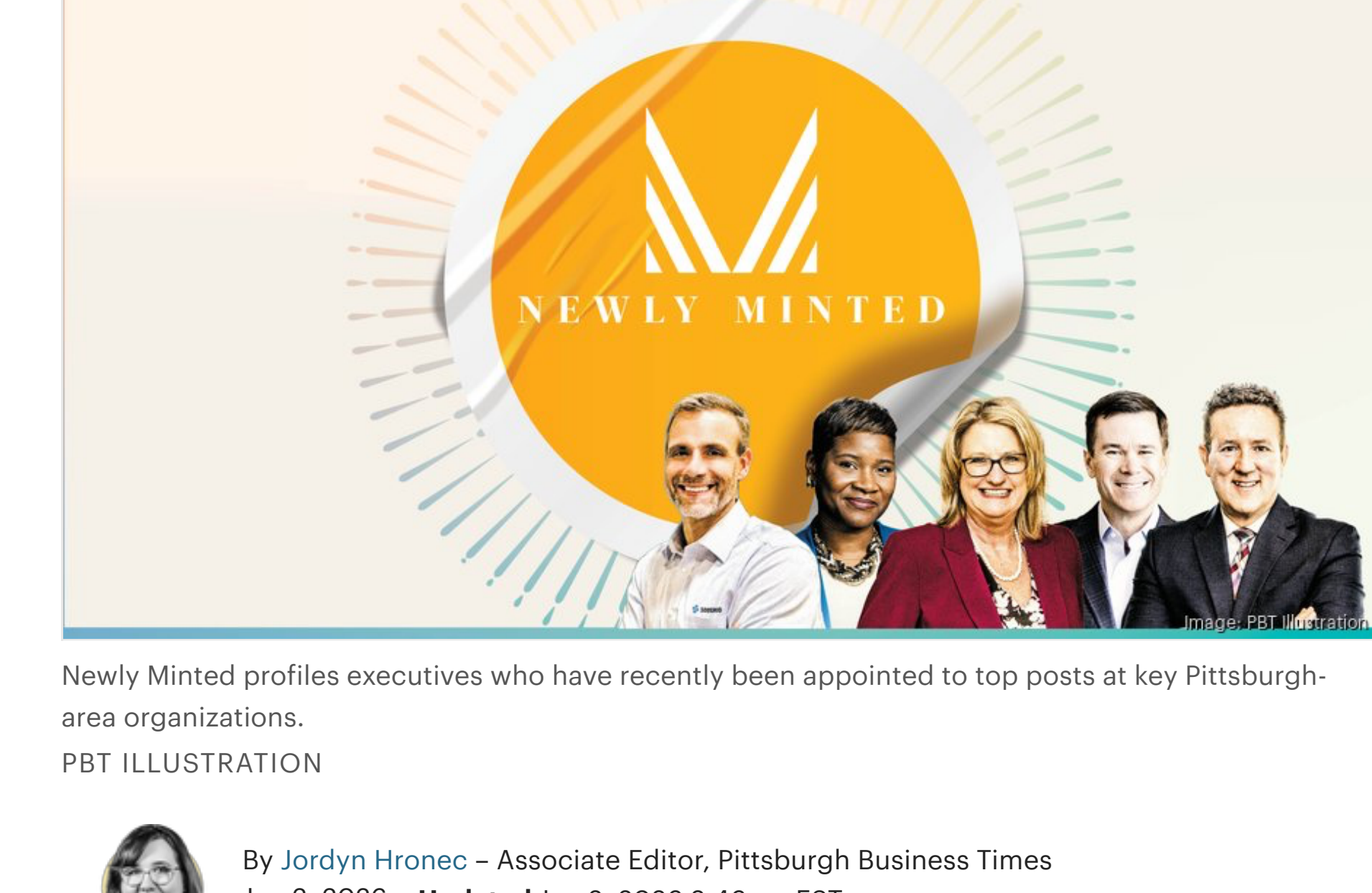
Career & Workplace

Newly Minted: Meet 28 of the Pittsburgh region's newest top executives (all profiles)

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Newly Minted profiles executives who have recently been appointed to top posts at key Pittsburgh-area organizations.

PBT ILLUSTRATION

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- Story Highlights
- Pittsburgh Business Times profiled 28 executives assuming leadership roles in 2025.
 - Leaders represent banking, health care, education, tech and nonprofit sectors regionally.
 - New executives face challenges including economic uncertainty and AI adoption.

As we ring in the start of 2026, the Business Times is looking ahead at what's to come for the region's business landscape this year. But in order to look forward, it's necessary to look back – specifically, at some key announcements and leadership changes that were made in 2025.

In this most recent installment of Newly Minted, we highlighted 28 executives who either stepped into their roles in 2025 or who were announced to be stepping into their roles in early 2026. These individuals hold various titles, including CEO, president, executive director and others, but across the board, each of them are among the highest-ranking leaders at their companies overall or within their companies' presences in the Pittsburgh region. They represent a number of different sectors, including but not limited to banking and finance, higher education, nonprofits, tech, health care, restaurants and construction.

Each of these individuals has been selected to lead their companies or organizations forward, to pick up the baton from their predecessors and to continue momentum toward big goals. Many of them come to their new roles from within the same company where they have already taken on leadership positions, demonstrating the importance of succession planning. They also ascend at a critical time when businesses are navigating all sorts of headwinds, including broad economic uncertainty, the rise of AI, an aging and shifting workforce, and increasing political polarization.

In email surveys, we asked many of these new leaders about their thoughts and perspectives on these challenges, as well as potential opportunities they see for growth as we head into the new year and beyond. Many weighed in on what they're looking forward to in 2026, as well as topics such as their own leadership styles, advice they've received from mentors, the factors holding our region back from reaching its full potential and more. Read their insights in the profiles linked below.

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- Jaime Dirksen: New Pittsburgh Mercy CEO outlines vision to reimagine human services delivery
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- Karen Hanlon: Highmark Health's newly promoted president talks about navigating change
- Mary Beth Jenkins: UPMC Health Plan CEO foresees high medical cost trend continuing into 2026
- Jeffrey Kent: Maher Duessel CEO touts firm's new collaborative leadership model
- Lisa Lambert: New Chatham president targets deeper Pittsburgh business ties to fuel university growth
- Bradley Lingo: Grove City College's new president returns to alma mater with mission-driven vision
- James McNelis: S&B USA Construction's new CEO brings 40 years of infrastructure expertise to role
- Katie Mominee: PwC's new Pittsburgh market leader is focused on deepening firm's impact
- Mary Murrin: New Rivers of Steel CEO brings high-powered corporate experience to heritage nonprofit
- Chris O'Brien: New incoming CEO at Armada sees brand integration as a 'strategic accelerator'
- Bhavini Patel: Sustainable Pittsburgh's new leader talks impact of data centers, AI
- Jorgen Pedersen: New ARM Institute CEO pushes for more collaboration within Pittsburgh robotics sector
- Darla Poole: Auberle's new CEO is planning for the future despite funding uncertainty
- Gerald Pulsinelli: Primanti Bros. new CEO shares leadership approach as chain eyes next 90 years
- Alicia Schisler: New Adagio Health CEO takes over at pivotal moment for women's health
- Mark Sevco: AHN's CEO predicts the biggest challenges in health care in 2026
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- Alan Shepard: New CNX Resources CEO takes the helm following rapid rise through company ranks
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