

# unique venues

UNIQUEVENUES.COM // WINTER 2016

azine

## THE BEST IN SHOW 25 *Winning Venues*

THE BIGGEST EVENT  
**TRENDS**  
*for 2016*

ON THE ROAD  
**5** WINTER  
WONDERLANDS

PROFESSIONAL of the YEAR  
**Kim Araya**  
IS AN AMERICAN TREASURE







You won't find a bored room anywhere.

With both indoor and outdoor meeting spaces, say goodbye to stuffy work meetings. The Springs Preserve offers numerous unique, fully equipped venue options across a lush 180-acre campus. Add a little life to your next meeting.



**SPRINGS PRESERVE®**  
Naturally better meetings.

Conveniently located near downtown Las Vegas at U.S. 95 & Valley View Blvd. | 702.822.8779 | [springspreserve.org](http://springspreserve.org)



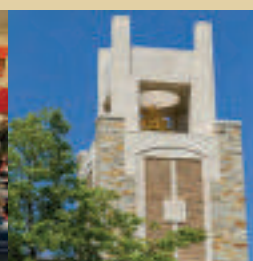


*Big City meetings, Small City price!*

Located just a short distance from Manhattan, our four NY campuses are ideally suited for business meetings, training seminars, workshops, or summer conferences. Our Queens, Staten Island, Oakdale, and Manhattan campuses each offer a unique identity that can be tailored to the needs of our guests.

Our professional conference services staff will assist you with every step as you plan your next event.

modern facilities • state-of-the-art  
audiovisual technology • wireless  
internet access • extensive catering  
to fit all tastes • on-campus housing  
accommodations for all group sizes



[csevents@stjohns.edu](mailto:csevents@stjohns.edu) | 718-990-7300 | [stjohns.edu/conferences](http://stjohns.edu/conferences)



Easiest place  
to host a better  
meeting.



convene™







# Meetings Corporate Events Trainings



- Only steps from the Silver Line Metro station
- Free Wi-Fi
- State-of-the-Art Technology
- Capacity for 2 – 250 participants
- Fresh culinary offerings



**Tysons Corner**  
1800 Tysons Blvd  
McLean, VA 22102

**convene.com**  
**888.730.7307**





## CONFERENCES • WEDDINGS SPECIAL EVENTS • CAMPS

Located halfway between Los Angeles and Santa Barbara along the California coast, the 1930s Mission and Spanish Colonial Revival buildings and sprawling grounds of CSU Channel Islands house a state-of-the-art university. Buildings are a short walking distance from one another nestled among a variety of inspiring open spaces nurturing a retreat like feel.



Channel Islands

**EVENTS@CSUCI.EDU • WWW.CSUCI.EDU/CONFERENCES-EVENTS • 805-437-3900**

Manhattan College offers housing, classroom and meeting spaces, dining and catering on a hilltop campus easily accessible from New York City.



**MANHATTAN  
COLLEGE**



[manhattan.edu/ConferenceServices](http://manhattan.edu/ConferenceServices)

Call: 718-862-7415



CAMPS • SOCIAL EVENTS • CONFERENCES • COMMUNITY EVENTS • CONCERTS • FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT • WEDDINGS



HOST ANY SIZE EVENT  
**FROM 10 TO 10,000**  
AT OUR VERSATILE VENUE

**CONFERENCE & EVENT SERVICES**  
ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY

LET'S GET SOCIAL!

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [v](#) [y](#)

*Photo of Armand Hammer Alumni-Student Center by Mark Moore*

On-Campus Accommodations • *Experienced Catering*  
*Located in the Heart of Tulsa* • Quality Hotels Nearby

**BOOKING INFO** ORUCES.COM • ORU.EDU • 918.495.6400 • 7777 SOUTH LEWIS AVENUE; TULSA, OK

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY  
••• *Home of Tulsa, Oklahoma's Top Attractions* •••



# CONTENTS

## Best of Unique Venues // Winter 2016



WARM UP TO THESE WINTER WONDERLAND ESCAPES THAT OFFER WAYS TO AVOID HIBERNATION.

# 48

### In Every Issue

#### 12 *Publisher's Letter*

#### 36 *What's Trending*

Could 2016 be a leap year in more ways than one? Giant steps will be made in meeting technology, food, décor and organization say these experts who predict our near future.

#### 42 *The Main Event*

When a Denver-based wellness facility wanted to host an Oscar-worthy event for a group of donors, they found a blockbuster location with Regal Theatres.

#### 48 *On The Road*

Winter Wonderlands! Though the weather outside might be frightful where you are, all the activities at these special venues are downright delightful this time of year.

#### 80 *Venue Index*

Find comprehensive listings of Unique Venues members across the U.S. and Canada, listed alphabetically by region.

#### 96 *Person of Interest*

As the director of university conference and guest services at American University, Kim Araya has turned the operation into a national model for better meetings and events.

### Features

#### 55 *The Best in Show*

Unique Venues is proud to announce the winners of its Second Annual Best Of Awards. These 20 special event venues, conference centers, camps and retreats and campuses are as original as they come.

#### 68 *Best in Market*

Unique Venues Best Of Awards don't just stop at the venues. We also recognize all that goes on behind the scenes, including the efforts of these five marketing masters.



# 55

FROM BEST HIGH-TECH VENUE TO BEST REUNION SPOT, WE ANNOUNCE THE 20 WINNERS OF OUR BEST OF AWARDS.





THE  
FRANKLIN  
INSTITUTE

# THE LAUREATES CONFERENCE CENTER

— AT THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE —

Book your next event at Philadelphia's  
newest IACC-rated Conference Center

**215.448.1165 | [www.fi.edu/conferences](http://www.fi.edu/conferences)**



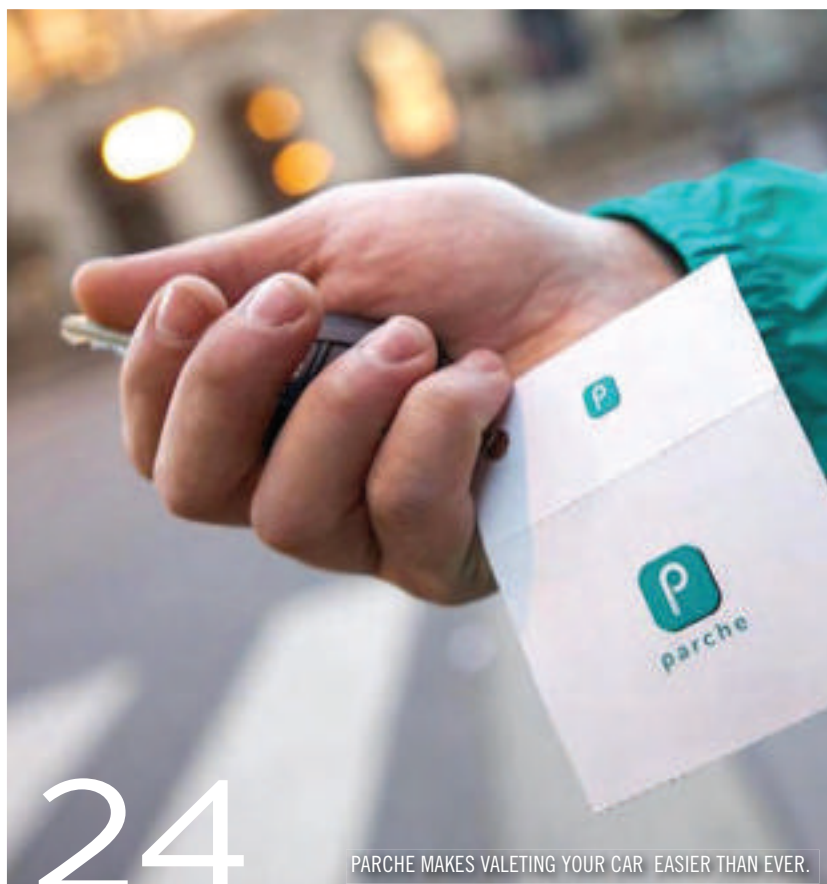
MEET AT A SMARTER LEVEL





# CONTENTS

## Best of Unique Venues // Winter 2016



# 24

PARCHE MAKES VALETING YOUR CAR EASIER THAN EVER.



THIS HOUSEMADE RECIPE IS PERFECT FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

# 28

### On The Cover

*Kim Araya.*

The 2015 Unique Venues Professional of The Year is the all-American star Kim Araya. *Photo by Justin Walker. Page 96*

### The Agenda

#### 17 *Work / Life / Balance*

The holidays are about decking the halls, not people, but we all know that with the seasonal joy comes the stress. Here are three tips to survive the holiday hustle and find some peace.

#### 20 *Expert Advice*

Hybrid Nation: Three experts weigh in on how to bring virtually everyone together.

#### 24 *Technology*

Park it here! These three new apps make driving in the winter a whole lot easier with ways to beat the meters, find the best garage deals and preorder from valet.

#### 28 *Happy Hour*

Waterview's housemade Okanagan Apple Bourbon offers a warm, rich flavor perfect for winter and holiday entertaining.

#### 32 *Food for Thought*

The Franklin Institute revamps a special carrot cake recipe and gives everyone a tasty reminder that spring is on the way.

### Industry Updates

#### 74 *News & Awards*

Unique Venues Fourth Annual Marketing Conference brought more than 135 members together at Catholic University of America, all eagerly awaiting the announcement of the Best Of Award winners.



Winter 2016

# unique venues

you belong here™

PUBLISHER  
MICHELE NICHOLS

PRESIDENT  
CHUCK SALEM

EDITOR  
SELENA FRAGASSI

SALES  
JEANNE FEATHERS  
ANNE MCCAWE (CANADA)  
LISA MORRELL

MARKETING MANAGER  
MANDY VOLPE

TECHNOLOGY  
TODD WONDERS

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES  
COREY SALEM

PLANNER SERVICES  
SHANNON GLOVER  
ANN MCKENZIE

SALES ASSISTANT  
JEFF GEINER

ART DIRECTOR  
CASIE BELDO

PROJECT MANAGER  
DIANNE TALMAGE

PRODUCED BY  
TIGER OAK MEDIA

900 South Third St, Minneapolis, MN 55415

© 2015 Tiger Oak Media. All rights reserved.

PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.



A PUBLICATION OF:  
UNIQUE VENUES  
[email@uniquevenues.com](mailto:email@uniquevenues.com)

CORPORATE OFFICE  
225 MAIN STREET  
OPAL BUILDING, SUITE G-1  
EDWARDS, CO 81632 | 970-926-7676

SALES OFFICE  
1001 MENOHER BLVD  
JOHNSTOWN, PA 15905  
814-254-1310

[UniqueVenues.com](http://UniqueVenues.com)  
[UniqueVenues.ca](http://UniqueVenues.ca)

## EVENT SPACE for ALL OCCASIONS

Our exciting event space is located on the most historic square mile in the country. Our building is an architectural landmark featuring terraces with stunning views of Independence Mall.

For more information or to view the space, contact Ellen Weiss at **215-391-4638** or [eweiss@nmajh.org](mailto:eweiss@nmajh.org)

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF  
AMERICAN JEWISH  
HISTORY  
A Smithsonian Institution Affiliate  
Corner of 5th and Market  
215.923.3811 • [NMAJH.org](http://NMAJH.org)



## Catering that inspires. Service that elevates. Events that soar.

Corporate and Non-Profit Events, Award Ceremonies, Training Seminars, Business Breakfasts and Luncheons... when you book Louisville's largest downtown property and only waterfront hotel for your next event, you're also booking a culinary staff ready to serve. From intimate gatherings of ten, to galas with 2,000 guests...the Galt House Hotel delivers.

- Customized menu plans
- Dedicated culinary team
- Locally Owned
- 128,000 square feet of flexible, dynamic function space
- Two breathtaking ballrooms
- 53 meeting rooms

Contact our Catering Sales Team at 502.568.4261 today... and put Louisville's leader to work for you.

  
GALT HOUSE HOTEL  
*The Heart of Louisville*



140 N. FOURTH STREET • LOUISVILLE, KY 40202  
(502) 589-5200 • [GALTHOUSE.COM](http://GALTHOUSE.COM)





d o u b l e t r e e d o w n e r s g r o v e . c o m

# unique.

UNIQUE adjective:

1. being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else

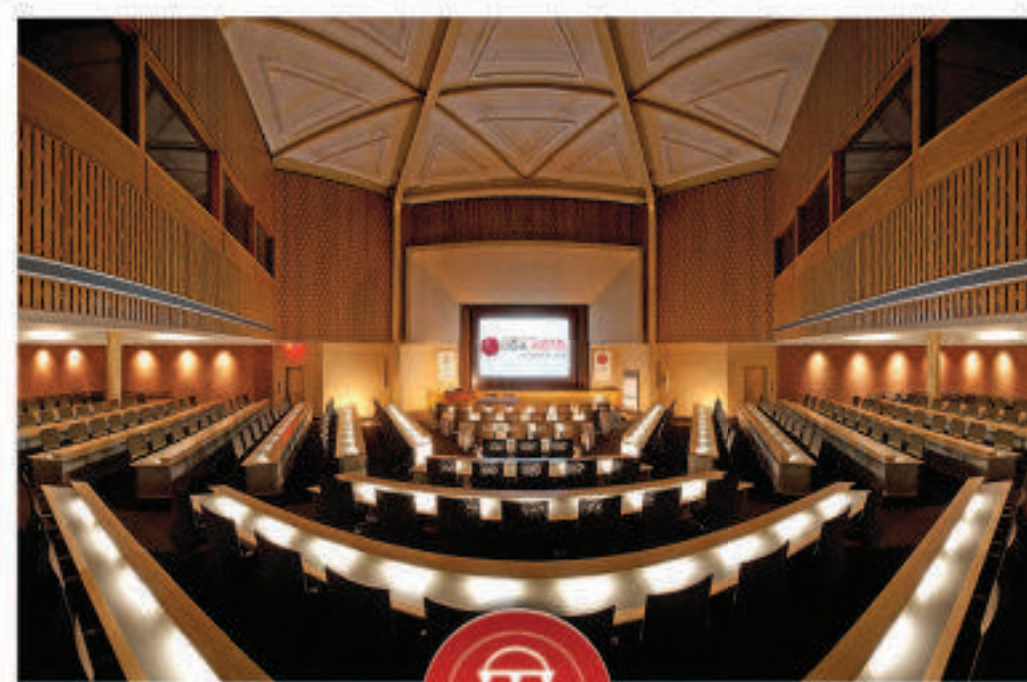
synonyms: distinctive, distinct, individual, special, idiosyncratic



Visit [www.doubletreedownersgrove.com](http://www.doubletreedownersgrove.com) for a virtual tour  
2111 Butterfield Road  
Downers Grove, Illinois, 60515  
**1-630-971-2000**

- Enjoy a warm and welcoming stay at our all-suite conference hotel located in tranquil surroundings outside bustling Chicago
  - Complimentary shuttle service within five miles
- 35,000 sq. ft. of event space for meeting, weddings, and social events  
Esplanade Lakes Ballroom  
*Voted One of the Top 10 Unique Venues in Chicagoland (Source: Fox News Chicago)*
  - Lobby Lounge and Esplanade Restaurant
- 25,000 sq. ft. fitness center with basketball court, aerobics studio, pool and spa
  - Conveniently located off I-88 and I-355

## THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA'S HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER



**706-542-2654**



**UGAHOTEL.COM**



A full service hotel and conference center owned and operated by the University of Georgia. Located on campus, in the heart of Athens.



**The University of Georgia**  
*Center for Continuing Education  
Hotel & Conference Center*

A unit of the Office of  
Public Service and Outreach





## THE CONFERENCE CENTER AT MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY



- Flexible meeting space, ideal for groups of 10 to 500 people
- State-of-the-art audio/visual
- Award-winning catering services
- Breathtaking view of the Manhattan skyline
- Centrally located in North Jersey, 14 miles from NYC



**MONTCLAIR STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

[www.meetatmontclair.com](http://www.meetatmontclair.com)

1 Normal Avenue • Montclair, NJ 07043 • 973-655-3391 • [conference@montclair.edu](mailto:conference@montclair.edu)



# PUBLISHER'S LETTER



Unique Venues President Chuck Salem and Founder Michele Nichols fete the winners of the Second Annual Unique Venues Best Of Awards at a special award presentation in October.

**T**HE BEST IS YET TO COME. It's a phrase we hear quite often, whether casually in popular song lyrics or more personally in greeting cards. Yet, in our industry the phrase has taken on a new, professional meaning the past couple of years. It was apparent with the launch of the Unique Venue Best Of Awards in 2014, or as we like to call them, the UVys (U-Vees).

Not only did our inaugural year make quite the impression on planners, venues and onlookers as one of the first ever to recognize the best contenders in non-traditional meeting and event spaces, but this year we were happily surprised when we saw the numbers pour in. More than three times the amount of

nominations were submitted and planner voting also tripled. Yes the best is yet to come as our industry grows stronger, bigger, better.

It was a feeling that was palpable at our Annual Marketing Conference in Washington, D.C. this past October at Catholic University of America as our members gathered waiting eagerly for the announcement of the Best Of winners at our finale luncheon. Like the Grammys, the ESPYs or the Emmys, this was our industry's time to shine as we awarded the best reunion spot, the best place to hold an LGBTQ-friendly event, the best venue on a per diem and everything in between in 20 categories. We also feted five winners of our annual marketing awards for best social media presence, website, collateral and print ads and our Professional of the Year.

Though spread out across the U.S. and Canada and different in scope, all of these venues had this in common—they set themselves apart as the trendsetters, the ones to watch, the leaders of our pack. They're pushing the envelope, challenging peers in new, innovative ways and providing services and benefits that are new and haven't been done before. They too know the best is yet to come.

You can find each of the Best Of winners in this latest issue (and supplementary member index) as well as on our website. Each bears a blue ribbon of honor and will be easily identifiable for both interested planners and venues that want to know where the competition lies. While that word is often given a bad rap, competition truly makes all of us better. When we recognize the best in the business, it sets a standard we can all strive to reach and keep raising. Our venues are all independent, unlike hotel chains that have corporations, support and multiple properties to collaborate with on a regular basis. Our network relies on always being the best of the best and so far we're all doing a pretty good job.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M Nichols'.

Michele Nichols, Founder  
Unique Venues





***Add these  
elements to  
your next  
meeting!***

Conveniently located  
on 160 acres in Asheville,  
NC, Lutheridge includes  
a vast array of recreational  
activities, sports,  
teambuilding and  
staff-led initiatives.

# Meet in the Mountains

***Relaxed.  
Distraction Free.  
Thought Provoking.***

- Premier conference center in Western North Carolina specially designed for corporate events, church retreats, and other team building retreats
- State of the art audio/video in new 500 seat auditorium
- Accommodations- Hotel-like to the rustic cabin, and houses groups of 25 to 150
- Professional Chef to meet all your dining and catering needs
- Within miles of the Asheville Regional Airport
- Minutes away from The Biltmore Estate and some of the best fly-fishing in Western North Carolina as well as many other incredible Asheville attractions



***LUTHERIDGE CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER***

Located in the Western North Carolina mountains

[www.novusway.com](http://www.novusway.com)

828-684-2361



Meet at  
**VANDERBILT**  
CONFERENCE ★ SPECIAL EVENTS

For Conferences and Special Events

**#MEETATVU**

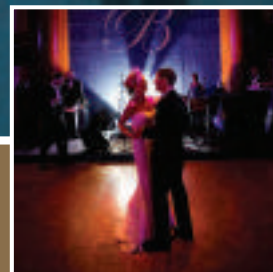
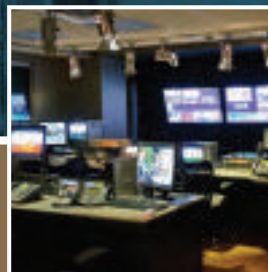
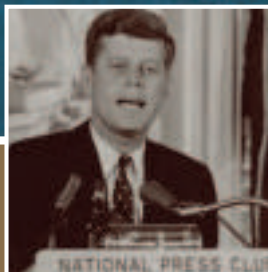


[www.meetatvanderbilt.com](http://www.meetatvanderbilt.com) | [facebook.com/meetatVU](https://facebook.com/meetatVU) | [twitter:@meetatVU](https://twitter.com/meetatVU) | [instagram:@meetatVU](https://instagram.com/meetatVU)

PRESIDENTS, KINGS, QUEENS, BUSINESS LEADERS, CELEBRITIES AND MEDIA ICONS  
HAVE BEEN MAKING HISTORY HERE FOR OVER 100 YEARS.

## WHY NOT MAKE YOUR EVENT HISTORIC?

Widely considered a premier Washington, DC landmark, the National Press Club is a truly unique experience and the ideal setting for business and social events. Located just two blocks from The White House and Washington monument with easy access to mass transit, dozens of hotels and featuring full-service catering and technology teams that have satisfied the most demanding of world leaders, The National Press Club offers a unique setting like no other, with the convenience, value and world-class service, amenities and hospitality fit for a king.



**THE NATIONAL  
PRESS CLUB**

LEGENDARY EVENTS HAPPEN HERE.

529 14th Street, NW, 13th Floor, Washington, DC 20045  
202-662-7541 • [sales@press.org](mailto:sales@press.org) • [www.press.org/host](http://www.press.org/host)



# Discover Sodexo, Discover the Secret to Success

Sodexo Conference Centers offer a unique experience for your attendees

- Flawless execution, resulting in a better experience for planners and attendees
- Demonstrable sales and marketing success
- Leaders in sustainability initiatives



Visit our Conferencing Website to schedule your next meeting or event.

**1-866-699-6338**

<http://www.sodexoconferencing.com/properties-list>

CORPORATE

**sodexo**  
QUALITY OF LIFE SERVICES



# NINE OUT OF TEN CONTORTIONISTS AGREE

AMES IS WILLING TO BEND OVER BACKWARDS  
TO MAKE YOUR EVENT A SUCCESS.



ames

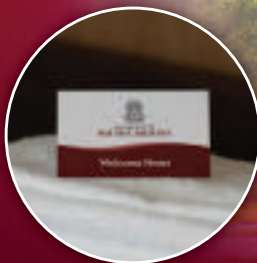
IOWA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

*Smart Choice*

## Discover CAROLINA

The Historic Horseshoe, innovative green facilities, international business and unique southern charm can only be discovered at the University of South Carolina. Located in the capitol city of Columbia, let the University of South Carolina become home to your next conference or event. Call today to discover how you can call Carolina Home!

803-777-9444



Accommodations  
for over 5,000



Southern  
Hospitality



Unique Dining  
Options



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Capstone Conference Center • Conferences & Events • Carolina Dining

[www.sc.edu](http://www.sc.edu)



# THE AGENDA

work / life / balance BY MANDY VOLPE



## PEACE ON EARTH: *How to Survive The Holiday Hustle*

*The holidays are about decking the halls*, not people, but we all know that with the seasonal joy comes the stress. In addition to your already busy work to-do list you have to check twice, there are all the parties, the shopping, the baking and the cards. Oh the cards. It's enough to make you Scrooge out, but before you do, we have a few tips to help you create some breathing room in your schedule so you can enjoy the holidays rather than hoping you survive come January.

**1 TAKE YOUR HOLIDAY VACATION:** Many companies have a “use it or lose it” policy for vacation. Even if your organization allows you to roll over your accrued time, still take a day or two for yourself during the season to catch up on shopping or to head to your child’s school for a special performance or luncheon. These hours outside of the normal work routine will allow you some flexibility and free time to enjoy the season, and you will return to work with a renewed focus.

**2 WRAP UP THE HOME LIFE TO-DO LIST:** Making your house merry is sometimes the biggest challenge of all this time of year. You might consider hiring extra help to get it all done, such as scheduling a babysitter so you can buy gifts in peace or leaving the deep

cleaning to a housekeeper so you can bake cookies without wondering who will clean up after. The two or three hours of help will allow you to check multiple things off your to-do list at one time.

**3 STAY PRESENT WITH WORK FUNCTIONS DURING THE DAY:** The holiday season is typically filled with celebrations to honor the year and employee achievements. Many companies plan these events as after-work parties or celebrations. This year, urge your supervisor to plan a brunch or early cocktail hour instead where ‘mixing and mingling’ can take place during work hours and give staff the evenings to focus on family and other holiday activities. **uv**



MANDY VOLPE  
Unique Venues Marketing  
Manager





MEET. **STAY.** CONNECT ON CAMPUS.



Why not consider having  
your next event or group  
stay at one of the universities  
and colleges across Canada!

Visit [www.connectoncampus.ca](http://www.connectoncampus.ca) for a listing of universities and colleges across Canada who can meet all your conference, meeting and accommodation needs.

## Boston University Events & Conferences



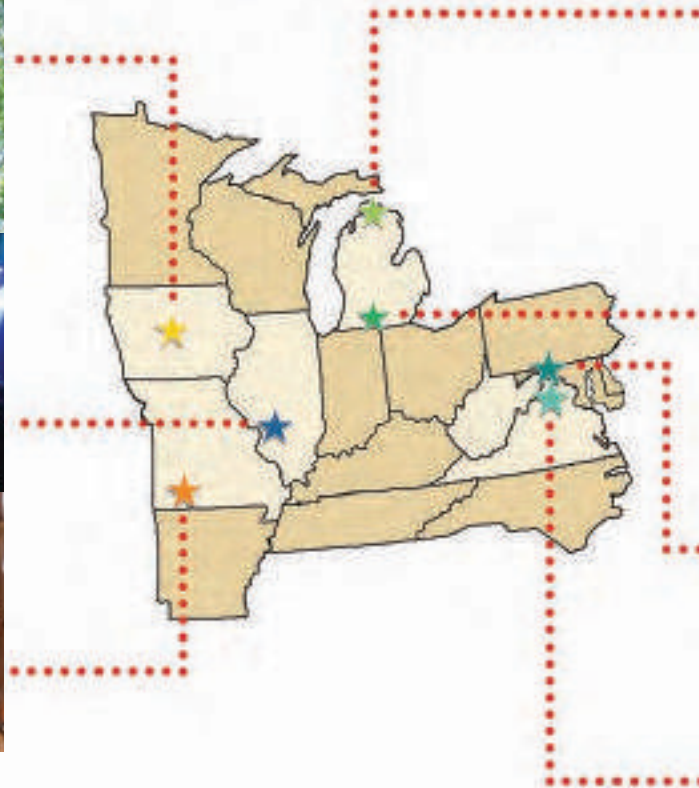
Explore Our Facilities  
Plan Your Event



Located in the heart of historical Boston, BU's campus offers stunning and unique meeting and dining venues year-round, as well as modern high-rise residential facilities in the summer months - all located on an easily accessible, beautifully landscaped urban campus. Let BU's talented, professional staff execute your event from start to finish.

[meetatbu.com](http://meetatbu.com) • [meet@bu.edu](mailto:meet@bu.edu) • 617-353-3520





7 properties nominated "best place for a spiritual retreat"  
6 properties nominated "best place for a youth retreat"

The CRN magazine was also nominated for "best print piece"

Our free magazine is available for download at: [ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org](http://ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org)  
or call to request a copy be mailed to you: 877-833-2272



Planning is easy with our properties! Choice of lodging style, a meeting space with complimentary A/V equipment, buffet dining, and basic recreation are all bundled at one per-person rate to keep planning simple and events affordable. 7 properties located in: Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Michigan, West Virginia, and Virginia



## HYBRID NATION

Three experts weigh in on how to bring virtually everyone together

*Winter is upon us*, which means weather delays, flight cancellations and the much-dreaded onset of the flu, all of which could put a damper on attendance for your next meeting. To safeguard yourself consider organizing a hybrid meeting with satellite technology that allows both in-person guests and virtual participants to come together in the same room without interruption. Here, three experts provide their best tips for how to make it a success every time.

"When hosting a live hybrid event, it's important to know what components are involved in communicating between point A and B. Last spring we hosted a live surgery presentation in Minneapolis, MN where attendees interacted with surgeons located in Frankfurt, Germany. There were many vendors and points of contact behind the scenes at both sites including a satellite feed, Internet, audio and video, sponsorship contacts, doctors and medical technicians. Being familiar with these components allows you to troubleshoot and test the presentation with efficiency. It's also important to have a large flexible space to accommodate all of the equipment that is needed, yet private enough for the attendees to be able to interact with the remote site."



- **NICK PETER**, Event Manager  
McNamara Alumni Center  
Minneapolis, MN

[UniqueVenues.com/mcnamara](http://UniqueVenues.com/mcnamara) // (612) 625.8876

"Make your meeting interactive for remote participants. Don't just allow them to view what's happening, but also enable them to engage with those on-site via interactive online Q&A, social media activity and other creative ways. Also, be wary of venues that do not have experience conducting hybrid meetings, or those that suggest using Skype or FaceTime or some other 'consumer' quality solution. You do not want to have your meeting freeze up or drop off. Work with a venue or company that uses professional-grade solutions to ensure a high-quality production interface."



- **BRIAN TAYLOR**,

Director, Business Development  
The National Press Club  
Washington, D.C.

[UniqueVenues.com/NationalPressClub](http://UniqueVenues.com/NationalPressClub)  
(202) 662.7541

"Bandwidth is always a primary consideration when setting up a hybrid meeting. Discuss this upfront with the facility during the selection process so you can determine if additional bandwidth will be needed to achieve your goals and so you can budget accordingly for the costs in hosting the hybrid event. You'll also want to know about the networks you'll be using when connecting with remote speakers and if the platform (Adobe Connect, Blue Jeans, etc.) is compatible with all devices. You might consider using dedicated lines for speaker presentations to ensure that participant devices using the facility's wireless do not compete with your signal strength for your remote presentation." **uv**



- **JULIE KIEFFER**,

Manager, Conference Planning & Management  
Iowa State University  
Ames, IA // [UniqueVenues.com/IowaState](http://UniqueVenues.com/IowaState)  
(515) 956.3200



# It's all right here

With historic architecture, views of the San Francisco Bay and a diverse range of culinary treasures to explore you'll wonder why you haven't considered UC Berkeley sooner.



Stress free planning



Architectural treasures



Beautiful outdoor spaces



**EventServices**

ASUC STUDENT UNION

**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

UC Berkeley is known for contributing to a better world. That same operating principle drives our professional and experienced event planners to contribute to the betterment of your events. We offer complete and comprehensive logistic planning, providing you peace of mind and more time to focus on the important stuff. Contact us for more information.

- Prestigious, beautiful 1,200 acre campus
- Versatile venue spaces
- Located in the heart of Berkeley, Ca
- Affordable local hotels within walking distance

T. 510-642-1141

E. [eventservices@berkeley.edu](mailto:eventservices@berkeley.edu)

[eventservices.berkeley.edu](http://eventservices.berkeley.edu)





Old Dominion University is located in the cultural and commercial crossroads of Norfolk, Virginia. The campus is just a short drive away from unique attractions:

- Dynamic waterfront district
- World-class museums and historic sites, including Colonial Williamsburg and Jamestown
- Nouveau and international dining
- Premier shopping
- Virginia Beach resort area
- Outdoor recreation adventures
- Military base tours
- Norfolk International Airport

We cater to a variety of group sizes and budgets – from sports camps to conferences – with convenient one-stop service (one contact, one contract and one bill), fully-furnished and air conditioned rooms, and exceptional service amenities.

**Old Dominion University Conference Services**  
 4701 Powhatan Avenue, G-2  
 Norfolk, VA 23529  
 (757) 683-3979  
[summerconferences@odu.edu](mailto:summerconferences@odu.edu)

## Make a splash with your next conference!



*"The Quad" - Conference Lodging*



*Ted Constant Convocation Center*

Norfolk, Va.

*Let us make your next meeting or conference  
 a memorable experience!*

Learn more ► [odu.edu/conferences](http://odu.edu/conferences)

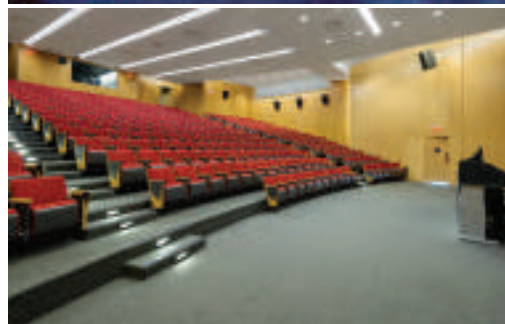
## Host your Conference at **Carleton University.**

- Located minutes from Parliament Hill and the Ottawa International Airport (YOW)
- 40,000 square feet of dedicated conference and meeting space
- Full-service catering and audio-visual services
- Over 100 state-of-the-art theatres and multi-media classroom facilities
- Overnight summer accommodations (suite and traditional style) for up to 3,000 May to August



**Contact us today!**

Carleton University Conference Services  
 1125 Colonel By Drive  
 Ottawa, ON, Canada, K1S 5B6  
 613-520-5611  
[ConferenceServices@carleton.ca](mailto:ConferenceServices@carleton.ca)  
[www.carleton.ca/ConferenceServices](http://www.carleton.ca/ConferenceServices)





# Georgia Tech Conference Services

is your Certified One-Stop Shop\* including:

- ≈ Lodging
- ≈ Dining / Catering
- ≈ Meeting Spaces
- ≈ Recreation Spaces
- ≈ Registration Services
- ≈ Transportation

\* ACCED-I Certified

*Prime Midtown  
Atlanta Location*

Variety of  
attractions and  
entertainment  
nearby for  
attendees!

Just 15 minutes  
to Atlanta's  
international  
airport

Wireless  
Internet  
Included



Named "Best College/University to Hold a Meeting or Event"



Find us online:



/GTConferenceServices



@gatechconfserv

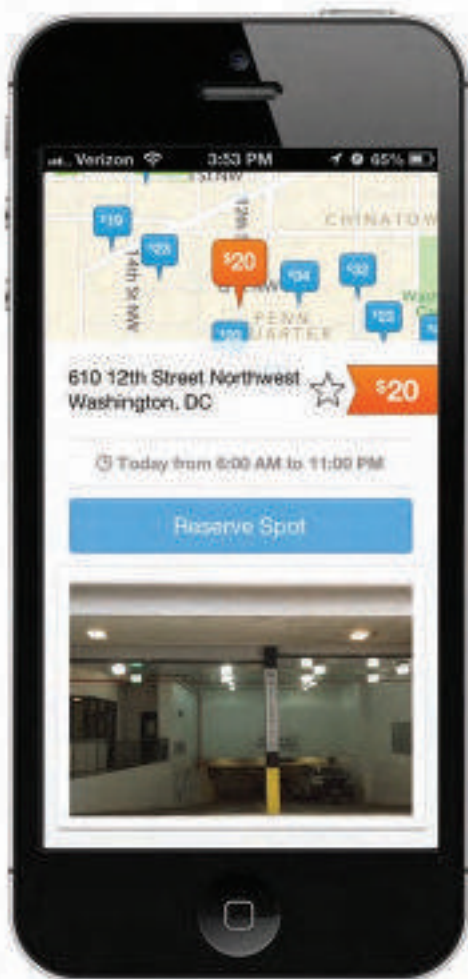
[www.conference.gatech.edu](http://www.conference.gatech.edu)





# THE AGENDA

## technology



## SPOT ON

These three parking apps help you find the best rates, pre-reserve valet and reload your meter with ease.

*When the wheels are in motion for a big meeting or event* the last thing you want to think about is, 'where am I going to park?' With a new suite of apps directly catering to personal transportation, now you can be more in control when you're in the driver's seat. Recommend them to future meeting participants, too, for even better attendance.



### STOP DIGGING FOR COINS WITH PASSPORT

This app lets you use your mobile phone to conveniently pay for parking meters, which means you don't have to fish for coins in your console and you can easily reload when time is running out to avoid tickets (the app will even send you a notification when it's due). Some cities like Chicago and Omaha have also used the company's technology for private label mobile pay; check your location for more details. [gopassport.com](http://gopassport.com).




### FIND THE BEST RATE AVAILABLE WITH SPOTHERO

This garage charges \$30, this one charges \$40 and this one makes you just want to stay home. Not anymore with SpotHero, your personal savior for finding the best flat rates anywhere in more than 10 cities. Pull up your location on the app and you'll see a map of all available garages or lots and their daily rates. Choose the one you want, book it on your phone and you're done! SpotHero also touts exclusive deals saving you up to 50% on parking rates. [spothero.com](http://spothero.com).



### PREORDER YOUR VALETED CAR WITH PARCHE

It's "valet without delay." Parche is the icing on the cake after a long dinner or event. With the app you can remotely request your valeted car, pay and tip on your mobile device and be notified when it's ready for pickup, all without leaving your table or waiting in the freezing cold winter night. [goparche.com](http://goparche.com). 



YOU'LL LAUGH. YOU'LL CRY. YOU'LL BE AMAZED AT HOW EASY IT WAS.

# YOUR BIG EVENT

JUST. GOT. BETTER.

YOU BOOKED IT AT A REGAL MOVIE THEATRE.

A BIG SCREEN, BIG SOUND, BIG BLOCKBUSTER PRODUCTION  
CREATING BIG IMPACT FOR YOUR COMPANY STORY

DIRECTED BY YOUR ONE-CALL FULL-SERVICE EVENT CONSULTANT PRODUCED BY OUR DEDICATED ON-SITE STAFF  
STARRING THE SILVER SCREEN, PERFECT SEATING, AND CONVENIENT PARKING AT HUNDREDS OF LOCATIONS NATIONWIDE  
SUPPORTED BY A FULL CAST OF CATERING SOLUTIONS AND ALL YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE CONCESSIONS SUPER STARS  
VISUAL EFFECTS PROVIDED BY OUR TURN-KEY A.V. TEAMS AND A NATIONAL SATELLITE NETWORK



COMING SOON AFTER YOU CALL 866-507-3425



[RegalBusinessEvents.com](http://RegalBusinessEvents.com)

 **REGAL** Business Events



# Why come to Riverside?

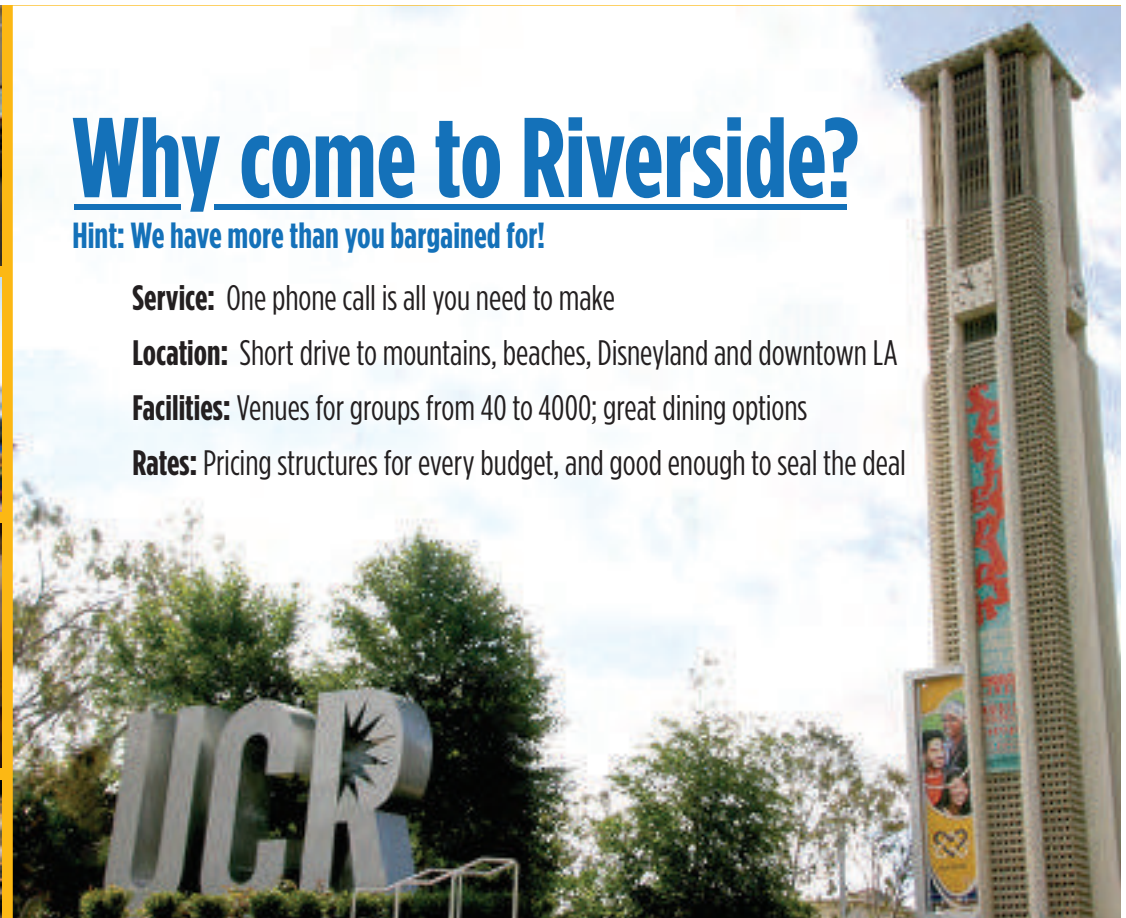
**Hint: We have more than you bargained for!**

**Service:** One phone call is all you need to make

**Location:** Short drive to mountains, beaches, Disneyland and downtown LA

**Facilities:** Venues for groups from 40 to 4000; great dining options

**Rates:** Pricing structures for every budget, and good enough to seal the deal



(951) 827-5471 | [conferences.ucr.edu](http://conferences.ucr.edu)

**UCRIVERSIDE** UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Conference, Events  
& Catering Services

## A Meeting Place of Distinction

**The Carter Hall Conference Center** welcomes your meeting, conference or retreat to our elegant campus. Located just west of Washington, DC in Virginia's scenic hunt country!

- Historic - *with modern-day conveniences*
- Private Setting - *be the only group on campus*
- Competitive CMP Pricing - *specializing in non-profits*
- Professional catering - *enjoy diverse, local cuisine*
- Superior service - *flexible one-stop-shop*



Contact a meeting planner today at  
540-837-9482

255 Carter Hall Lane  
Millwood, VA 22646

[www.carterhallconferences.org](http://www.carterhallconferences.org)



TCHCC is owned and operated by Project HOPE, a non-profit organization providing health education and humanitarian assistance programs around the globe. Revenue from TCHCC is funneled into supporting HOPE missions worldwide.



# SAY BON VOYAGE TO ORDINARY AND WELCOME ABOARD TO EXTRAORDINARY



## MEMORABLE EVENTS, MEETINGS AND INCENTIVES BEGIN WITH A STUNNING SETTING.

Amazed. Engaged. Rejuvenated. When was the last time you felt that way about an event or conference? You will on a Royal Caribbean® cruise. Our innovative turnkey solutions will dazzle you with everything from complimentary fine dining and state-of-the-art conference rooms to unforgettable venues and spectacular Broadway-style shows. And all for one very affordable price. Talk to one of our Corporate Sales Managers today to start planning a unique program that your clients are sure to enjoy — and remember. The only thing cookie-cutter about our special events ... is the mold we use to create your logo-inspired desserts.



## CONTACT US TODAY AND LEARN MORE.

(800) 345.7225 (select 2, then 1) or visit [RoyalCaribbeanIncentives.com](http://RoyalCaribbeanIncentives.com)





# THE AGENDA

## happy hour

### Okanagan APPLE BOURBON

Courtesy of Culinary Capers  
Catering and Special Events at  
Waterview (Vancouver, BC)

*Culinary Capers, the catering arm of Waterview* in British Columbia, recently launched Culinary Cocktails, featuring 20 recipes made in-house using local ingredients and housemade bitters. The Okanagan Apple Bourbon recipe, in particular, offers a warm rich flavor perfect for winter and holiday entertaining.


#### INGREDIENTS:

- ½ cup fresh squeezed apple juice
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 tsp. fresh squeezed lemon juice
- ½ vanilla bean
- 1 ½ oz. bourbon
- dried apple slices (for garnish)

#### TO PREPARE:

1. Combine the apple juice, cinnamon stick and vanilla bean in a small saucepan.
2. Bring the mixture to a gentle boil over medium-high heat and reduce by half to ¾ cup.



3. Remove from heat, strain and cool.
4. Combine cooled apple juice mixture, lemon juice and bourbon in a shaker with ice. Shake until well mixed.
5. Strain into a martini glass and garnish with a dried apple slice. *Makes 1 serving.* 

#### GET CONNECTED

Waterview // Vancouver, BC  
[UniqueVenues.com/WaterviewBC](http://UniqueVenues.com/WaterviewBC) // (604) 875.0153





# EAT. MEET. SLEEP.

---

*Exceptional made simple.*

- ✓ Sports camps
- ✓ Religious retreats
- ✓ Academic conferences

- ✓ Training seminars
- ✓ Leadership retreats
- ✓ Youth events

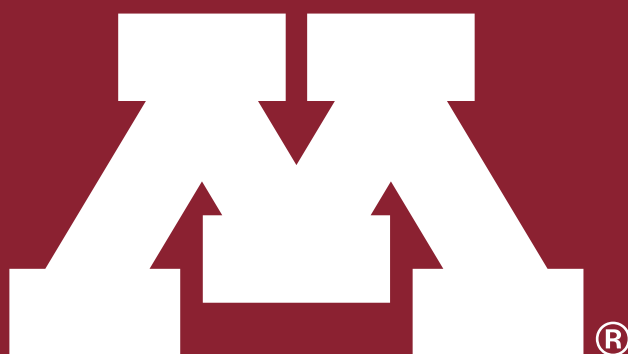
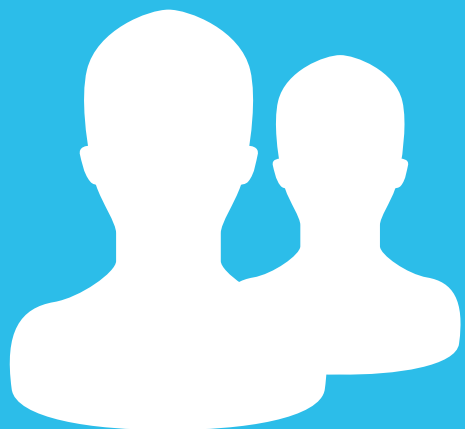
800-809-8681 » [conferenceservices.unl.edu](http://conferenceservices.unl.edu)







UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
CONFERENCE & EVENT SERVICES



SMALL, MEDIUM, OR LARGE: **WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.**



[UCES.UMN.EDU](https://uces.umn.edu)



612.625.9090

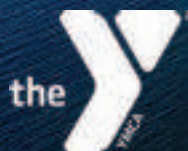


[UCES@UMN.EDU](mailto:UCES@UMN.EDU)



# SILVER BAY YMCA

Conference and Family Retreat Center on Beautiful Lake George  
in the Adirondack Mountains of New York

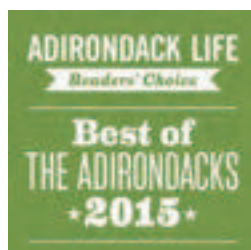


LEARN MORE AT  
[WWW.SILVERBAY.ORG](http://WWW.SILVERBAY.ORG)

Photo by Darren Lavine

*Our Campus is on the  
National Register of Historic Places*

- Conferences
- Family Vacations
- Reunions
- Staff & Board Retreats
- Special Events
- Weddings
- Leadership Training
- Teambuilding Activities
- Beaches
- Hiking Trails
- Tennis
- Archery
- Concerts & Lectures
- Craft Shop
- Day Use Available



**VOTED BEST RESORT  
IN THE ADIRONDACKS**

**SILVER BAY YMCA**  
87 Silver Bay Road, Silver Bay, NY 12874  
[www.silverbay.org](http://www.silverbay.org) 1.888.758.7229



## Carrot Cake

Courtesy of The Franklin Institute (Philadelphia, PA)

*Years ago, Frog Commissary Catering, a part of The Franklin Institute, decided to drop carrot cake from the menu thinking it was too mundane to serve at special events. Not anymore! Since then the recipe has been resurrected and refined and has become a customer favorite for its sandwiched layers of spicy cake with raisins and pecans covered with tangy cream cheese frosting and toasted coconut. In the dead of winter, it will be a tasty reminder that spring is coming! Baker's note: It's recommended to start a day ahead since the filling is best if chilled overnight.*



### INGREDIENTS:

#### FOR THE PECAN CREAM FILLING:

1 ½ cups sugar  
¼ cup flour  
¾ tsp. salt  
1 ½ cups heavy cream  
6 oz. unsalted butter  
1 ¼ cups chopped pecans  
2 tsp. vanilla extract

#### FOR THE CAKE:

1 ¼ cups corn oil  
2 cups sugar  
2 cups flour  
2 tsp. cinnamon  
2 tsp. baking powder  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1 tsp. salt  
4 eggs  
4 cups grated carrots  
1 cup chopped pecans  
1 cup raisins

#### FOR THE CREAM CHEESE FROSTING:

8 oz. soft unsalted butter  
8 oz. soft cream cheese  
1-pound box powdered sugar  
1 tsp. vanilla extract  
4 oz. shredded, sweetened coconut

### GET CONNECTED

The Franklin Institute  
Philadelphia, PA  
[UniqueVenues.com/FranklinInst](http://UniqueVenues.com/FranklinInst)  
(215) 448.1165



## TO PREPARE:

**1. Make the filling:** In a heavy saucepan, blend the sugar, flour and salt. Gradually stir in the cream. Add the butter. Cook and stir the mixture over low heat until the butter has melted, then let simmer 20-30 minutes until golden brown in color, stirring occasionally. Cool to lukewarm. Stir in the nuts and vanilla. Let cool completely and then refrigerate, preferably overnight. If too thick to spread, bring to room temperature before using.

**2. Make the cake:** Preheat the oven to 350°. Have ready a greased and floured 10" tube cake pan. In a large bowl, whisk together the corn oil and sugar. Sift together the flour, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Sift half the dry ingredients into the sugar-oil mixture and blend. Alternately sift in the rest of the dry ingredients while adding the eggs, one by one. Combine well. Add the carrots, raisins and pecans. Pour into the prepared tube pan and bake for 70 minutes. Cool upright in the pan on a cooling rack.

**3. Make the frosting:** Cream the butter well. Add the cream cheese and beat until blended. Sift in the sugar and add the vanilla. If too soft to spread, chill a bit. Bring to a spreadable temperature before using.

**4. Assemble the cake:** Preheat the oven to 300°. Spread the coconut on a baking sheet and bake for 10-15 minutes until it colors lightly. Toss the coconut occasionally while it is baking so that it browns evenly. Cool completely. Have the filling and frosting at a spreadable consistency. Loosen the cake in its pan and invert onto a serving plate. With a long serrated knife, carefully split the cake into 3 horizontal layers. Spread the filling between the layers. Spread the frosting over the top and sides. Pat the toasted coconut onto the sides of the cake. Serve at room temperature. **uv**

**DISCOVER  
CONFERENCE  
PLANNING  
WITH A  
DEGREE OF  
EXCELLENCE**

- Meeting rooms for groups from 10-10,000
- State of art meeting space with professional production services
- Conference management and registration services for meetings at sites across the US
- Residence hall accommodations and dining services for 8,000

 **CONFERENCE SERVICES**  
*Illinois State University*  
conferences@illinoisstate.edu | 1.800.677.1478 | conferences.illinoisstate.edu

**Nestled in the Heart of  
Midtown Manhattan**

*3 West Club*



The historic **3 West Club** - Providing world-class cuisine, seamless service, versatile event space, and overnight accommodations that blend together to create a unique and lasting experience.

3 West 51st Street, New York, NY 10019  
212-582-5454 ext. 2184  
directorofcatering@3westclub.com  
www.3westclub.com

 **3WESTCLUB**  **3WESTCLUB**  
 **@3WESTCLUB**  **3WESTCLUB**



LUX ET SPES



## STONEHILL COLLEGE

Conference & Event Services

**A space all your own awaits you** on our stately campus adorned with 375 acres of majestic surroundings.

Our beautiful campus, conference facilities, residences, and gourmet catering services are yours to use to **create your own adventure**. Whether you are planning a one day event or a month long retreat, **Stonehill is equipped to meet your every need—and exceed your every expectation.**

*Experience all you can achieve at Stonehill College.*



320 Washington St. • Easton, MA • **508.565.1176** • [caugeri@stonehill.edu](mailto:caugeri@stonehill.edu) • [stonehillconferences.com](http://stonehillconferences.com)



**FREE**  
venue  
searching on  
**UniqueVenues.com**

Where finding a venue can happen on  
your schedule and within your budget.

Use your phone, computer, or tablet  
to search for venues that fit your  
event needs.

**unique  
venues**  
you belong here™

**uniquevenues.com**



# POSTUP STAND Trade Show & Marketing Displays

Promote your conferences and special events with custom printed banner displays from Post-Up Stand!

*Perfect for:*

- Meetings and Conferences
- Trade Shows
- Community Programs
- Marketing Campaigns
- Special Events



• **High-Quality Portable Products** • **Super Low Prices**  
• **No Setup Fees or Rush Charges** • **48 Hour Turnaround**

**Retractable  
Banner Stands**



**Event  
Tents**



**Trade Show  
Displays**



**Vinyl  
Banners**



**Table Throws  
& Runners**



**Table  
Tops**



**Teardrop  
Banners**



**Large  
Adjustables**



**Quick Fabric  
Displays**

**SAVE 10%\* OFF YOUR NEXT ORDER! USE PROMOTION CODE UV16.**

\*This one-time offer cannot be combined with any other discounts or promotions.

**www.postupstand.com | 1.800.935.3534 | Maple Heights, OH**

Visit us online to see our complete line of products.





# WHAT'S TRENDING

BY SELENA FRAGASSI



LED lighting has come a long way in recent years and it is now much easier and less expensive, so look for its use across the board in small and large events.

## *A New Year of* NEW TRENDS

It looks like 2016 could be a leap year in more ways than one as giant steps will be made in meeting and event technology, food, décor and organization. Three experts predict our near future.

*It's almost January 1, and you know what that means*—another new year. But with all the new quarters, budgets and resolutions to be made comes the opportunity to wipe the slate clean, start fresh and advance on all the activity you had those 12 months prior. When it comes to meetings and events, being in the know is always being one step ahead in achieving personal goals and client expectations, so we turned to three experts to look into the future and see what we can expect to trend in 2016 and how to plan for it.

### FOOD/DRINK

Local will still be a big buzzword when it comes to planning menus in 2016, says Jodi M. Collen, CSEP, president of the International Special Events Society (ISES) and head of the event department at Minneapolis' Augsburg College,

which arranges 400 events each year.

"It's becoming less of a commodity and more of an expectation," she says of the straight-off-the-farm mentality. "It's becoming less acceptable to not understand where your food comes from or how it was prepared. Guests

are now asking questions." To keep up, chefs and catering companies are finding new ways to impart that idea while keeping it cost effective. "The key way is in developing seasonal menus and products that allow chefs to showcase what is fresh and also keep it interesting and relevant to what is happening in the food market at that moment."

In the same token, caterers are "really taking the lead on specialty menus," says Collen noting that make-your-own stations are also finding a resurgence to appeal to guests' individual dietary requirements. "Because things like gluten-free items are such a prevalent request we are now seeing whole gluten-free menus arranged rather than just a replacement option. Chefs are going above and beyond now to accommodate those needs in tasty ways."

Healthy options will also continue to be popular with all "the trendy vegetables used as side dishes," says Collen, pointing to the rampant use of Brussels sprouts, cauliflower and beets.

Where guests won't skimp out though is bacon. "It's everywhere right now. It's



mimicking how big cheese was years ago,” she says, noting that brunch foods in general are requested more and more as typical menu items. Even for desserts, crepe cakes are becoming a hot ticket, as are pies, macaroons and dessert bars that are starting to overthrow the cupcake trend of years past.

For beverages, mixology and signature cocktails are still ubiquitous, “but what is interesting is now we are moving away from vodka and rum and reverting back to traditional liquors like bourbon, whiskeys and tequilas that are used to replicate old-fashioned cocktails,” says Collen. Food and wine pairings will start to be replaced more often by food and beer or food and alcohol pairings, too. “It lets people learn more about what they are drinking. We’ve overall become more adventurous.”

## DÉCOR

An adventurous spirit is starting to apply to décor, too, as planners start putting more thought into out-of-the-box ideas to create a memorable environment. “In 2016 there will be less importance on stuff, or décor for décor’s sake, and more emphasis on the integrated experience of an event. Planners will be thinking about how someone navigates through an entire program rather than what the room looks like,” says Collen. That means tapping into mobile apps and enhanced lighting technology to set the mood.

“Lighting technology has changed so much in recent years; you can do more less expensively and much easier with LED, and it’s becoming prevalent in designs across the board whereas we only used to see it in high-end events,” she says.

For overall aesthetics Collen sees the natural/organic/rustic trend continuing in 2016, coupled with a greater focus on sustainability. “Planners are looking for ways to be able to make use of things more than using one-off designs.” Another experimental tactic has been working with unconventional seating arrangements. “Guests are less interested in sitting at a roundtable and talking with a few people next to them, so now planners are thinking of arrangements that give attendees the best chance to interact,” says Collen. Unique floor plans and a variety of tables are being paired together, and guests “might be asked to move around more and participate.”

## ORGANIZATION

Fran Brasseur, CHSE, CHBA, has also been noticing a similar trend in meeting setup. “Everyone is looking for



Clockwise from left: Locally sourced foods and organic displays will continue to be prevalent in 2016; old-fashioned cocktails, including those made with bourbon and whiskey, will find new life next year; one thing that is always in style—bacon.



# WHAT'S TRENDING

BY SELENA FRAGASSI

innovation in the meeting space,” says the executive vice president of Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International (HSMIAI) and executive director of the HSMIAI Foundation, “especially in setting the room differently.” Though it can be expensive to rent couches, leather chairs and coffee tables in place of round tables, her tip is to speak with the venue and see if they have furniture on hand to save on the cost of hiring a decorator or supplier. Many times the more non-traditional venues do, especially the quantities for more boutique groups, which Brasseux is starting to see as a major growth potential within the industry in 2016.

“For years we’ve been hearing about growth of the small meeting market and now we’re starting to see it,” she affirms. It comes along with shorter booking windows, sometimes even 7-10 days out. “For a planner that means greater opportunity to try and get into a space they weren’t able to in the recent past if the venue was perhaps holding out for a larger group.”

The planners who plan ahead will be best served in this arena, Brasseux says. “Getting serious about and understanding the market you want to be in is important,” she says, and recommends avoiding the idea to cast the net wide to 10 or more destinations and perhaps honing in on just a couple and researching the potential. One idea is to look at CVB calendars and see when the larger meetings and conventions are coming to town and bookend your events at venues around those dates, she says.

In her own research through HSMIAI, Brasseux also finds that personal relationships with sales contacts will continue to be important in 2016. “About 90% are still connecting with sales professionals to book business,” she admits, noting that while there will be a higher



Top: Venues like Canada's Waterview offer a variety of seating options for collaboration opportunities. Bottom: The Sli.do app will be popular for connecting conference attendees.

PHOTO COURTESY OF: JOHN WATSON, SLI.DO.



## MEET THE EXPERTS



**JODI M. COLLEN, CSEP**

President of the International Special Events Society (ISES)



**FRAN BRASSEUX, CHSE, CHBA**

EVP of Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International (HSMAI) and Executive Director of the HSMAI Foundation



**MARK COOPER**

CEO of the International Association of Conference Centres (IACC)

premium on electronic RFP systems and third party intermediaries, human contact is still the most preferred option.

### TECHNOLOGY

Face-to-face interaction will also be the “most popular way to meet” even as virtual elements continue to have an impact in meetings in 2016. “Virtual technology will absolutely expand but we won’t lose face-to-face meetings. In fact I think the opposite will happen,” forecasts Mark Cooper, CEO of the International Association of Conference Centres (IACC).

It’s an interesting time for meetings technology, he says, as it’s now easier than ever to facilitate high-tech arrangements with venues carrying more substantial bandwidth and hardware and more planners accepting the challenge of coordinating logistics. “The evolution and use of technology in the meetings industry is definitely in the embryonic stage at the moment, and I think we are only starting to find our feet in terms of how technology can assist us,” says Cooper. “I see 2016-17 and beyond as when we really embrace it.”

Two ways in which it will have the greatest impact in 2016 is site inspection and bookings. “In the same ways we now have street views available for hotels and apartment hunting online, we will start to see similar sophisticated technology offering virtual site

inspections and giving a feel for a venue without even being there,” says Cooper, noting that when planners are ready to book they will start to do so more online. “In general people are more comfortable buying big-ticket items online these days, and that will extend to meetings and conferences. It has only just started to really affect the marketplace and we expect to see a lot more happening in this area.” Cooper equates the phenomenon to the influx of “Generation Y” planners who make decisions without having to be comfortable seeing a location first. They are social media savvy and always linked in, which extends to their need for free Wi-Fi too, which will continue being an expectation in 2016.

On-site interaction is still extremely important and Cooper points to audience participation apps like Sli.do that will continue to take off. “We have audiences now who want to add to the conference or have questions to ask but are not as willing to stand up and speak with a microphone. So this modified two-way interaction between the facilitator and delegates solves that with the ability to do polls, Q&A sessions and voting on questions to make sure the most relevant make it to the panel,” he says. “We’ve seen it used in larger meetings but now it’s having an effect in smaller functions as well.”

As is the name of the game with technology, trends are always shifting and Cooper recommends staying in the loop by subscribing to association newsletters like those of IACC, MPI, ISES and HSMAI. “They have many posts constantly talking about trends and ‘the next big thing,’ he says offering one more piece of advice. “Keep in touch not just with the national newsletters but also the global ones since important ideas often come from all parts of the world.” **uv**

### GET CONNECTED

**HSMAI**  
[hsmai.org](http://hsmai.org)

**IACC**  
[iacconline.org](http://iacconline.org)

**ISES**  
[ises.com](http://ises.com)



# Holiday PARTIES

**FESTIVE AND FUN!**




Unforgettable holiday events happen at **iPlay America!**

- Parties from 20 - 1000
- Holiday office parties
- Client/Employee appreciation events
- Holiday Teambuilding
- Fundraisers for your favorite charity



**iPlay America**  
**GET INSIDE THE FUN!**

See our **NEW** holiday catering menu at [iPlayAmerica.com/HolidayParties](http://iPlayAmerica.com/HolidayParties) • Plan your event **TODAY!**

## The Marriage of Style and Selection



Your wedding reception becomes spectacular with DC Rental.

Select from our extraordinary—often exclusive—offering of glassware, fine china, designer table linens, flatware, chairs, distinctive furniture and more.

Whatever your wedding plans...wherever you will be celebrating...DC Rental delivers.

**IDC RENTAL**

**[www.dcrental.com](http://www.dcrental.com)**  
Phone: 703/671-7300





## SHAREHOLDER MEETINGS

## TOWN HALLS

## ROAD SHOWS



MEETINGS ★ SCREENINGS

**EVENTS@CINEPLEX.COM ★ 1.800.313.4461 ★ CINEPLEX.COM/GROUPEVENTS**



# THE MAIN EVENT

BY SELENA FRAGASSI

## A Happy Ending

When a Denver-based wellness facility wanted to host an Oscar-worthy event for a group of donors, they found a blockbuster location with Regal Business Events.



Regal Theatres rolled out the red carpet experience for a special premiere event in Denver.

*When it comes to rolling out the red carpet,* few venues can do it better than a movie theater. In addition to the Hollywood glamour and incredible picture and sound, nowadays, even fancy catering and cocktail options can upgrade regular concessions into a celebrity-style party for discerning groups. It's exactly the backdrop a Denver-based health facility was looking for—and found—when they hosted a premiere-worthy, high-end donor event at Regal Theatres' UA Denver Pavilions Stadium in May 2014.

The Anschutz Health and Wellness Center, on the grounds of University of Colorado Denver, had been a filming site for ABC's "Extreme Weight Loss" reality show, which provided a unique opportunity to premiere an episode of the latest season and bring in show producers and past participants for a special, ticketed event that invited previous donors.

"The content was key," says Barry Brown, director of national events and sales for Regal Theatres who helped coordinate the event. "Organizers wanted to make sure it was showcased in the best possible facility." For Regal, that was the easy part. Like most theaters, the Knoxville, Tennessee-based chain has state-of-the-art projection and sound already built in to its facilities, and it has used that to its benefit in running a successful "meeting and a movie" program at nearly all its 571 national locations since 2002.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: REGAL THEATRES.



**BOSTON'S PREMIER  
DAY MEETING CENTER**

**IN THE HEART OF THE  
FINANCIAL DISTRICT**



**19,000 SQ. FT.**

**GROUPS OF 1 - 175**

**NO FOOD & BEVERAGE MINIMUMS ON  
MEETING PACKAGES**

**ALL-INCLUSIVE FULL & HALF DAY  
MEETING PACKAGES, HOURLY RATES,  
AND RECEPTION PACKAGES**

**EXPERIENCE IT!**

**CALL US TODAY.**



**101 FEDERAL STREET, 4TH FLOOR**

**WWW.METROMEETINGCENTERS.COM**

**617-737-1200**



# THE MAIN EVENT

BY SELENA FRAGASSI



Pictured here: Representatives of Anschutz Health and Wellness Center gives a presentation before the premiere event. At right: Some of the night's catering, props and tablescapes.



"We have seen that [planners] are looking for non-traditional venues outside of hotels and conference centers to host meetings and events," says Brown of the chain's effort over the years to boost its profile in this market. "One of the difficult things about an event sometimes is driving attendance, but there is still a huge perceived value to a movie and it can be a way to get people to show up." That was certainly the case for the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center event, which had quite a full house with 250 people in attendance.

Upon arriving, guests were greeted to their own private area apart from the normal movie-going public. "We created a special entrance just for this group with about 50 feet of red carpet, event signage and a step and repeat [for photos]," says Brown.

The carpet led to another sectioned-off area that continued the glamorous Oscar feel. Regal brought in high-top tables, pipe and draping, ambient lighting, flowers and props including movie posters.

"We used our poster cases as a branding opportunity for both 'Extreme Weight Loss' and the Anschutz Center," says Brown. As well, high-end food stations and a bar with beer, wine and cocktails allowed guests to dine, drink and mingle before the main event, which was held in a larger auditorium that Regal had specifically chosen ahead of time due to the size of the group.

"Our mantra is to always take a consultative approach," says Brown who further notes his team spent a good deal of time working with Anschutz to make sure they could visualize how their event would look in the theater, which was vastly different from the restaurants where they normally held donor events. "As we work with the client and scope out the event, we can understand their goals and budget and figure out the best solution for them. We want planners to be focused on the message and their attendees as opposed to dealing with logistics and equipment. We take care of that part."

For Regal that also means providing event staffing, on-site registration and marketing tools. "Many times the perception is that 'it's a movie theater, so who will be handling my event?' but we have an entire department with years of experience dedicated solely to planning meetings and events," says Brown, noting one more huge benefit. "Our calendars are open. Outside of Friday and Saturday nights we have an entire week where we can provide facilities that work well for events, especially as more and more companies invest in producing high-definition content. Some of the best productions in the world are shown here day in and day out, so planners can use that to their advantage, too." **uv**

## GET CONNECTED

Regal Business Events

[UniqueVenues.com/regal-business-events](http://UniqueVenues.com/regal-business-events)

# AMA Executive Conference Centers



Atlanta  
New York  
San Francisco  
Washington, DC area

## Meetings Made Simple and Affordable



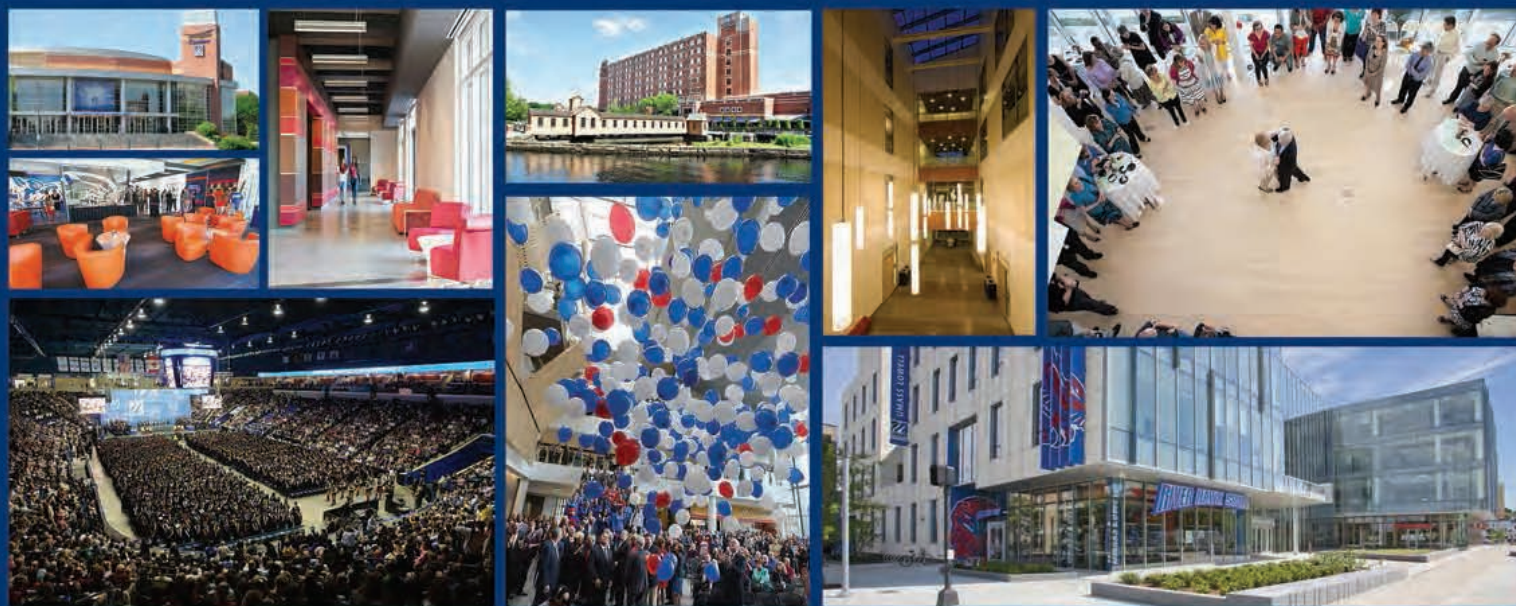
- Flexible meeting rooms for 5 to 240
- Free projector and PC use
- Complimentary continuous beverage service
- Executive chairs and spacious lounges
- High-speed Internet access and WiFi
- Wide range of optional catering packages
- No service charges
- No food and beverage minimums
- No setup charges
- No freight in/out charges
- No sleeping room commitment

## ACT NOW

Visit us at [www.amaconferencecenters.org](http://www.amaconferencecenters.org)  
Email us at: [meetings@amanet.org](mailto:meetings@amanet.org) or call 212-903-8277



# Welcome to UMASS LOWELL



Located in the *beautiful, historic city* of Lowell, the University of Massachusetts Lowell offers a wide variety of dynamic spaces, full dedicated staff, and all of the resources you will need to *support* you in planning and hosting a fantastic, successful event.

Whether you are planning a banquet, cocktail reception, corporate conference, trade show, meeting, wedding, baby shower, or overnight summer camp, UMass Lowell is the *perfect* venue for any occasion!

Call today and tell us about your *vision* so we can help you to make it a *reality*.

Ask us about our state of the art **PREMIER** facilities, including...

- University Crossing
- Tsongas Center
- Bellegarde Boathouse
- Inn & Conference Center
- Emerging Technologies & Innovation Center
- University Suites & Residence Halls

& more!



We specialize in events of all types, sizes, and budgets!



- Meetings
  - Conferences
  - Weddings
  - Social Gatherings
  - Corporate Outings
  - Trade Shows
  - Summer Camps
  - Athletic Clinics
  - Special Events
- ...the list goes on!

*To book your event, or to request more information...*

CALL: 978-934-3888 | E-MAIL: [events@uml.edu](mailto:events@uml.edu) | VISIT: [www.uml.edu/events](http://www.uml.edu/events)

Office of Hospitality & Event Services | 2 Solomont Way, Lowell, MA 01854



in any event





#### **ANN ARBOR MARRIOTT YPSILANTI AT EAGLE CREST**

Spectacular facilities come together to provide an unmatched conference center/resort experience. From the 18-hole Karl Litten designed golf course to 42,000 square feet of meeting space encompassed within 26 meeting rooms, this golf resort features a luxuriously appointed 238 guest room/5 suite Marriott. This recently renovated resort with its scenic views overlooking the lake is a must see!

#### **EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION CENTER**

The Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center is the newest multi-purpose state-of-the-art facility in southeast Michigan, playing host to concerts, trade shows, banquets, family entertainment, and EMU athletic events. This facility is a 204,316 square-foot structure featuring three user-friendly levels including arena, concourse and office. The Convocation Center also boasts versatile seating configurations, which allow clients to maximize space usage.



#### **EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER**

Offering modern facilities, state-of-the-art technology, full-service catering and a convenient location, the Eastern Michigan University Student Center is an ideal venue for banquets, conferences and meetings. The Center can accommodate up to 1,100 people via its specialty spaces and meeting rooms.

## **HERE, IS REAL BUSINESS.**

Let's get started today.

Contact Ypsilanti Area Convention and Visitors Bureau

Mary Zuccherro, CDME, GMS | [mzuccherro@ypsilanti.org](mailto:mzuccherro@ypsilanti.org) | 800.265.9045



**YPSIREAL.COM**





# ON THE ROAD

BY SELENA FRAGASSI

## Winter Wonderlands

Though the weather outside might be frightful in some places, all the scenery and activities at these special venues are downright delightful this time of year.



### BANFF CENTRE

Climbing to Alberta, Canada's Mount Norquay is just one of the winter activities that can be enjoyed at the Banff Centre.

*Yes, winter is here again.* But instead of begrudging the next twelve weeks and hoping the groundhog finally sides with you this year, there's reason to actually look forward to the season—if you pick a special event venue like the five featured here. From thrilling ski activities and relaxing hot springs that warm your bones to providing a “floating resort” in the middle of the Caribbean, your attendees won't have to hibernate this season.

### Rainbow Ranch Lodge (GALLATIN GATEWAY, MT)

Winter doesn't always have to be known as the drab, dull, overcast gray season—not with all the colorful activities to explore at Montana's Rainbow Ranch Lodge. Here, the events team can arrange downhill skiing at Lone Mountain, part of the Big Sky Resort—the largest ski resort in North America—and snowmobiling, snowshoeing and horseback riding at the neighboring Gallatin National Forest.

After an adventurous day, guests can

relax on-site with a large hot tub and an array of 21 peaceful guest rooms complete with wood-burning fireplaces and decks with views of the snow-covered mountains. “Winter is our second busiest season,” says Sales Director Pattie Graffe, noting the property promotes ski and stay packages as well as frequent corporate events. Spaces include a private wine room that holds up to 10 people, the North Dining Room for 30 and South Dining Room for up to 50 guests—all with A/V services available.

In addition to in-room Keurig coffee-

makers and daily fresh-baked cookies, Rainbow Ranch also has a bar and restaurant, open 7 days a week, that features regional cuisine by an award-winning chef who recently took home the “most creative” honor from the Big Sky Battle of the Chefs competition. “Our bar is extensive with housemade barrel-aged cocktails, bitters, a \$40,000 wine cellar and many local beers,” adds Graffe.

### The Banff Centre (BANFF, AB)

You might call it the Sundance of the North. In addition to being the site of the Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival (now in its 40th year), The Banff Centre is also similarly renowned for being “a town with a lively winter scene,” says Aysun Lynch, meeting architect (conferences) at the property in Alberta, Canada. That includes a quaint downtown area with festive shops and a number of local

partners that can arrange guided excursions including a gondola ride up Sulphur Mountain, climbing routes to the summit of Mount Norquay and skiing, skating, snowshoeing, dogsledding and other winter survival team-building activities. "The town is a basecamp for adventure," furthers Lynch, also pointing out the famous hot springs.

With so much buzz about town, The Banff Centre has become a popular choice for conferences and events. More than sixty meeting rooms, lecture theatres and auditoriums accommodate groups from five to 1,000 participants. "Groups can also take their event to the next level with our Conference Connectors," says Lynch of the innovative team-building programs that have 16 tracks, including culinary, cultural, community and outdoor events, meant to enhance participant experience and support meet-

#### RAINBOW RANCH LODGE

Guests can relax after a day of skiing at nearby Lone Mountain inside these 21 peaceful guest rooms.



plan@cmich.edu  
(989) 774 - PLAN

CMU | Events & Conference Services  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## Attention Venues!

### JOIN OUR NETWORK

Reach **50,000** planners

Grow your conference business



To join our network and begin marketing your venue, call Jeanne Feathers at 814.254.1310 or email [jeanne@uniquevenues.com](mailto:jeanne@uniquevenues.com)



UniqueVenues.com | 814.254.1310



# ON THE ROAD

BY SELENA FRAGASSI

## BELLA VISTA ESTATE

Guests of this Colorado estate can enjoy an on-site bar inside the property's Main House.

ing and event goals. “A 90-minute session is equivalent to three days of traditional networking at an event,” says Lynch. Also new is the Meeting Architecture practice where an expert, or ‘architect,’ weaves together human interaction, conceptual design, creativity and technical production to further generate results.

### Bella Vista Estate (STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO)

Even the “Real Housewives” love the Bella Vista Estate. The Atlanta crew hosted a televised “winter wonderland” getaway at the private grounds nestled on seven acres in Colorado’s Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest. “Bella Vista has hosted a number of different celebrities over the years, but we also love hosting families, weddings, corporate retreats and regular folks, too!” says Property Manager Sarah “Sal” Albert.

All visitors can enjoy the “privacy, luxurious accommodations, spacious meeting areas and no restrictions on food, liquor or entertainment,” adds Albert who calls it the perfect option for overnight groups of 35 people (though it can host events for up to 200 guests). In the Main House, teams can gather together for work and collaboration but then retire to 12 suites with private bedrooms and bathrooms.

In winter, “the most attractive aspect of renting our venue is the convenience of the world-class Steamboat Resort, just 10 minutes away in our chauffeured shuttle,” says Albert. Here activities include snowmobiling, ice fishing, sleigh riding and snow tubing, among others. The Bella Vista team also offers special packages to give the Rocky Mountain ‘local touch’ such as ski rental discounts, grocery shopping before your arrival and free airport transportation. “We have



### HISTORIC ROSEMONT MANOR

This historic site is a popular winter attraction for its dazzling light display.

the amenities of a five-star resort with a relaxed environment that hotels simply cannot offer,” says Albert.

### Historic Rosemont Manor (BERRYVILLE, VA)

Built in 1811, this former Civil War battleground site and the once private estate of Senator Harry Flood Byrd, Sr. is where “history meets elegance.” At no time of the year is that more true than during the holidays when the Main Manor House and accompanying Carriage House are decked out with thousands of lights and decorations that have become quite

the “regional attraction,” says General Manager Bill North. Additional winter tea parties, “Downton Abbey”-themed dinner parties and homemade ice creams with fresh seasonal mint have made the 60-acre grounds in the Shenandoah Valley a popular choice from Thanksgiving weekend to January.

The once private estate was only opened to the public in 2010 and has since booked a number of corporate events, group retreats and private meetings, as well as weddings for up to 150 people. The Main Manor House features the Rosemont Dining Room, a parlor,

# MEET HERE

CHICAGO'S NORTH SHORE...

Ideal  
Location

Excellent  
Value

Superb  
Facilities

WHERE YOU GET EVERYTHING

Chicago's North Shore Convention and Visitors Bureau is dedicated to offering you everything you need for a successful meeting or event: location, amenities, superior service, entertainment, ease of transportation and the exquisite style that is the hallmark of Chicago's North Shore.

**Our hotels with meeting space are:**

Best Western University Plaza – Evanston  
Crowne Plaza Chicago/Northbrook – Northbrook  
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel and Conference Center  
Chicago-North Shore – Skokie  
Hilton Chicago/Northbrook – Northbrook  
Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore – Evanston  
Hilton Orrington/Evanston – Evanston  
Holiday Inn North Shore – Skokie  
Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel – Northbrook  
Sheraton Chicago Northbrook – Northbrook  
Westin Chicago North Shore – Wheeling  
Wyndham Glenview Suites – Glenview

**Unique meeting and event venues include:**

Chicago Botanic Garden – Glencoe  
Lakeview Banquets – Glenview  
Lever Memorial Temple – Evanston  
North Shore Center for the Performing Arts – Skokie  
Northwestern University – Evanston  
Pinstripes – Northbrook  
Redfield Estate – Glenview  
The Glen Club – Glenview  
Winnetka Community House – Winnetka

Proud members of



For personalized assistance, contact Kimberly Wright, CMP at  
847-763-0011 ext. 23 or [kwright@cncsvb.com](mailto:kwright@cncsvb.com)



# ON THE ROAD

BY SELENA FRAGASSI


sunroom and grand portico for socializing in addition to eleven suites and guest rooms with private bathrooms complete with original claw foot tubs. Additional guest cottages allow accommodations for up to 30 people. The Carriage House is ideal for larger meetings of up to 100 people classroom-style with smaller breakout areas. Although the site is historic, it's been fully modernized with Wi-Fi and A/V services for the modern visitor. Says North, "We're sharing the history of what happened here and moving the site forward."

## Royal Caribbean International (MIAMI, FL)

If you really want to escape winter altogether, you might consider Royal Caribbean International, the number-one cruise brand in the Caribbean that has a strong meeting and incentive draw particularly in the early part of the year when everyone wants to head south. "January and February is a great time to book with us because rates are lower," says Lori Cassidy, director of global corporate, incentive and charter sales.

Planners can choose from three-to-seven-night cruises that sail from home ports in

Tampa, Ft. Lauderdale, Miami and Port Canaveral, Florida. Each ship has dedicated and complimentary meeting spaces (the largest for up to 1,400 people) as well as complimentary A/V services and a whole list of extra curricular activities that provide a little something for everyone. That includes Broadway plays, shopping and dining on the 'Promenade' and private island experiences with beaches, zip lining and other sports.

New this year is a revamp of the popular Majesty of the Sea vessel that will offer the fastest high-speed wireless connectivity. As well, the new Anthem of the Sea ship debuted in New York City in November offering five-night outings to Bermuda. "If you want something outside the ordinary you can definitely find it here," says Cassidy. 



### ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL

The Majesty of the Sea launched in November offering five-night outings to Bermuda, perfect for a winter getaway.

## TIP:

*Find your perfect unique venue for winter or any season with new, advanced search options on [UniqueVenues.ca](http://UniqueVenues.ca) and [UniqueVenues.com](http://UniqueVenues.com) that let you browse by region.*



*Turn to page 80 to see a comprehensive list of all our member venues.*

## GET CONNECTED

The Banff Centre  
Banff, AB  
[UniqueVenues.ca/BanffCtr](http://UniqueVenues.ca/BanffCtr)  
(403) 762.6485

Bella Vista Estate  
Steamboat Springs, CO  
[UniqueVenues.com/BellaVista](http://UniqueVenues.com/BellaVista)  
(970) 879.4449

Historic Rosemont Manor  
Berryville, VA  
[UniqueVenues.com/RosemontManor](http://UniqueVenues.com/RosemontManor)  
(540) 955.2834

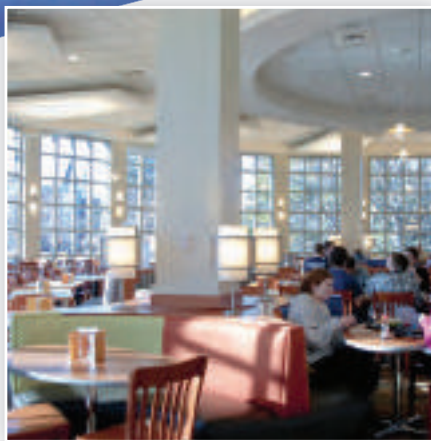
Rainbow Ranch Lodge  
Gallatin Gateway, MT  
[UniqueVenues.com/rainbowranch](http://UniqueVenues.com/rainbowranch)  
(406) 995.4132

Royal Caribbean International  
Miami, FL  
[UniqueVenues.com/royalcaribbean](http://UniqueVenues.com/royalcaribbean)  
(800) 762.0458

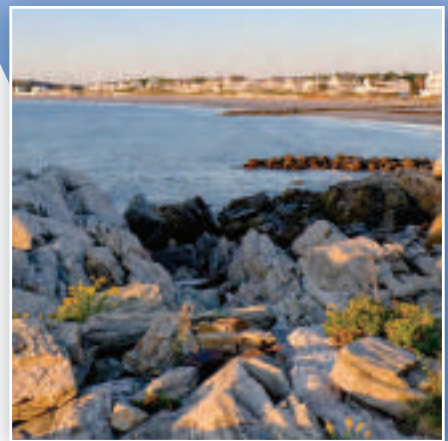
# When school is out, *Summer Conferences are in!*



Comfortable Accommodations



Award-winning Dining Options



Close to the Seacoast

Modern meeting facilities, gorgeous surroundings, and delicious meals prepared by world-class chefs set the tone for an exciting, different kind of conference! Located in close proximity to the ocean, mountains, beautiful walking trails and a vibrant nightlife, everything you want – and maybe a couple things you hadn't thought of – are right here.

**Reinvent your annual conference. Reinvigorate your people!**

*Reach out to our professional conference planner today.*



**University of  
New Hampshire**

Conferences and Catering

*Book your conference now!*

(603) 862-1900

[conferences@unh.edu](mailto:conferences@unh.edu)

[unh.edu/conferences-catering](http://unh.edu/conferences-catering)





# Meet The Court

*your best choice for conferences & events at the Jersey shore*

- Year round meeting space, including 10,000 square foot exhibit hall
- Summer conference housing
- Classically trained chefs
- Award winning, professional event planning services
- Complimentary audio-visual hardware (in-stock)
- Free on-site parking
- Free WiFi

Meet Georgian Court University at  
**[www.georgian.edu/special\\_events](http://www.georgian.edu/special_events)**



**GEORGIAN  
COURT  
UNIVERSITY**

THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

---

UNIQUE VENUES PRESENTS THE



2015 BEST OF AWARD WINNERS

---

# *The* BEST *in* SHOW

UNIQUE VENUES IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS OF ITS SECOND ANNUAL BEST OF AWARDS. THESE 20 SPECIAL EVENT VENUES, CONFERENCE CENTERS, CAMPS AND RETREATS AND CAMPUSES ARE AS ORIGINAL AS THEY COME.

---

*It's time for award season* and what better way to kick it off than presenting our Second Annual Best Of Awards to these very special properties. From the best venue to film a movie to the best high-tech business center, we tallied your votes for the final winners in 20 categories—and what a distinguished group it is.

*Congratulations to all the winners and the runners up!*

---

*by Selena Fragassi*



## BEST VENUE TO FILM A MOVIE

Winner: **Boston University**, Boston, MA

Boston University has its own sequel as the second-time winner in this category, also receiving the best “venue to film a movie” honor in 2014. And it’s not hard to see why with rolling credits of big budget productions that have used the campus for their back lot such as “The Social Network,” “Friday Night Lights,” “21,” “60 Minutes,” and most recently, “Ghostbusters 3.” So who you gonna call when you need a blockbuster production? Dealing with demanding film and television crews has allowed the events department to perfect their operations for all clients; the certified One-Stop Shop is also versed in working with a number of service providers to make sure needs are met.

[UniqueVenues.com/BostonUniv](http://UniqueVenues.com/BostonUniv) // (617) 353.3520

**Runners Up:** Hatley Castle at Royal Roads University (Victoria, BC, [UniqueVenues.ca/RoyalRoads](http://UniqueVenues.ca/RoyalRoads)), Georgia International Horse Park (Conyers, GA, [UniqueVenues.com/GAHorsePark](http://UniqueVenues.com/GAHorsePark))

## BEST VENUE TO HOST A MEETING OR EVENT ON PER DIEM

Winner: **University of Georgia Hotel and Conference Center**, Athens, GA

Back-to-school specials can be found all year long at venues like the University of Georgia Hotel and Conference Center, which is able to further provide affordable pricing since it is state-run. “We traditionally work with a Day Meeting Package versus charging meeting room rental and audio-visual fees,” says Director of Sales Elizabeth J. Hovell. “This provides planners the assurance of appropriate space and servicing at a set per person daily fee.” The DMPs offer a full A/V package in each room (regardless of size) including projector, screen, microphone, beverage service and refreshment breaks—or groups can also bring in their own A/V for a nominal fee. More than 38,000 square feet of meeting space can accommodate up to 600 while there are 200 hotel rooms and suites, and qualifying groups can receive a block of rooms at rates equal to the federal government per diem. All visitors can also tap into the complimentary shuttle service to attractions like the Georgia Museum of Art and Special Collections Library that offer free entertainment.

[UniqueVenues.com/ugcce](http://UniqueVenues.com/ugcce) // (706) 542.1044

**Runners Up:** The Conference Center at Montclair State University (Montclair, NJ, [UniqueVenues.com/MontclairStateConfCtr](http://UniqueVenues.com/MontclairStateConfCtr)), St. Lawrence College Conference Services (Kingston, ON, [UniqueVenues.ca/StLawrence](http://UniqueVenues.ca/StLawrence))



**Boston University**

**University of Georgia Hotel and Conference Center**



PHOTOS COURTESY OF: BOSTON UNIVERSITY, TERRY ALLEN.





*Hatley Castle at Royal Roads University*



*Georgian Conference and Event Services*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: HATLEY CASTLE, GEORGIAN CONFERENCE AND EVENT SERVICES.

## BEST VENUE FOR A FORMAL AFFAIR

Winner: *Hatley Castle at Royal Roads University*,  
Victoria, BC

Sometimes fairytales do come true, like when you host your guests at the beautiful Hatley Castle on the 565-acre estate of Royal Roads University. With its storied history (once owned by the Dunsmuir family) and set on an idyllic location overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the Castle has become a preferred venue for formal weddings and special events, and even film and television productions such as “X-Men” II and III and “The Witches of East End.” The first floor offers more than 2,000 square feet for up to 200 guests and includes a Tudor Revival-style Grand Hall and Greek Revival-style Ballroom and lounge. Inside are vaulted ceilings, oak beams, stained glass windows, seven wood-burning fireplaces, four crystal chandeliers, gold beribboned sconces and two sets of double French doors that open to “a spectacular view of the formal gardens, Esquimalt Lagoon, the Straits of San Juan de Fuca and the Olympic Mountains,” says Manager, Campus Services Lorraine Burtoi.

*UniqueVenues.ca/Royal Roads // (250) 391.2600*

**Runners Up:** McNamara Alumni Center (Minneapolis, MN, [UniqueVenues.com/mcnamara](http://UniqueVenues.com/mcnamara)), Austin Convention & Visitor's Bureau - Hornel Historic Home (Austin, MN, [UniqueVenues.com/austincvb](http://UniqueVenues.com/austincvb))

## BEST VENUE FOR EXHIBITIONS AND TRADESHOWS

Winner: *Georgian Conference and Event Services*, Barrie, ON

Georgian Conference and Event Services clearly knows the tricks of the tradeshow, named the winner of this category for the second consecutive year. Part of Georgian College, the events department seamlessly transforms the campus' student athletic centre into a 20,000-square-foot, column-free event space with ample room for up to 110, 10' x 10' booths that can fit banners, displays and furniture. As such it has developed a considerable reputation and hosts around 15 large-scale shows annually including galas, convocations, wellness fairs, career expos and sports exhibitions; past clients have included the Skor Food Tradeshow and Flanagan Tradeshow. “One of the attractive reasons that groups use our venue is that all profits goes back to the students of Georgian College for events, activities and special projects,” says Sara Tuck, CMP, manager of conference and event services. The other reason is the location—just 90 minutes from downtown Toronto it's easily accessible.

*UniqueVenues.ca/GeorgianConferenceServices // (705) 728.1968*

**Runners Up:** Boston University Agganis Arena (Boston, MA, [UniqueVenues.com/BostonUniv](http://UniqueVenues.com/BostonUniv)), Museum of Science and Industry (Chicago, IL, [UniqueVenues.com/MSIChicago](http://UniqueVenues.com/MSIChicago))



## BEST PLACE TO HOST AN LGBTQ-FRIENDLY EVENT

Winner: **University of Delaware Conference and Event Services**, Newark, DE

The Virden Center at the University of Delaware takes a lot of pride in hosting events for the vibrant and active LGBTQ community in the beach town of Lewes, says Polly Weir, director of conference services. “We have been hosting civil unions for several years,” before same sex marriages became legal in the state, she says. “Our setting is ideal for weddings and events of all types because of its secluded, quiet and natural environment, surrounded by wetlands.” The Center has been working to better serve the market by advertising in local and regional LGBTQ publications like Camp Rehoboth, Letters and the Washington Blade and anticipates special packages to be rolled out soon. Each event is tailored to the couple’s or group’s needs; in addition to weddings, the 4,300-square-foot Virden Center has hosted birthday, anniversary and retirement parties as well as retreats for the Metropolitan Community Church and the Universalist Church, both of which have numerous LGBTQ members.

[UniqueVenues.com/UnivDelawareNewark](http://UniqueVenues.com/UnivDelawareNewark) // (302) 831.3714

**Runners Up:** Mount Holyoke College and Willits-Hallowell Conference Center (South Hadley, MA, [UniqueVenues.com/mountholyoke](http://UniqueVenues.com/mountholyoke)), SPiN New York (New York, NY, [UniqueVenues.com/SpinNY](http://UniqueVenues.com/SpinNY))

## BEST OUTDOOR EVENT SPACE

Winner: **Georgia International Horse Park**, Conyers, GA

The great outdoors is one way to describe Georgia International Horse Park. Originally purpose built for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, the venue has since hosted concerts and festivals, state and county fairs, obstacle course races, car, bike and RV shows, mountain bike and extreme sporting races, weddings, reunions and commercial productions—just to name a few. “We have great options for events seeking an outdoor venue to accommodate large crowds with seating, concessions, vendors and entertainment,” says Director Jennifer Edwards. The whole park is a whopping 1,400 acres with various venues including the Grand Prix Plaza and Stadium (with 8,000 seats and 143,000 square feet of space), Charles Walker Covered Arena for up to 2,500 people and Picnic Pavilion. There’s also the Cherokee Run Golf Club, Big Haynes Creek Nature Center, 25 miles of horse and bike trails and on-site hotel. And, says Edwards, “The Conyers community also boasts various shops, restaurants, attractions and ample hotels to accommodate events at the Horse Park.”

[UniqueVenues.com/GAHorsePark](http://UniqueVenues.com/GAHorsePark) // (770) 860.4194

**Runners Up:** Colorado State University (Fort Collins, CO, [UniqueVenues.com/CSU](http://UniqueVenues.com/CSU)), Chicago Botanic Garden (Glencoe, IL, [UniqueVenues.com/ChicagoBotanicGarden](http://UniqueVenues.com/ChicagoBotanicGarden))

### University of Delaware Conference and Event Services



### Georgia International Horse Park



PHOTOS COURTESY OF: UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE, GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL HORSE PARK.





### *The Red Barn at Hampshire College*

## BEST FARM-TO-TABLE GROUP CATERING OFFERINGS

Winner: ***The Red Barn at Hampshire College***, Amherst, MA

The Red Barn at Hampshire College has some fresh ideas when it comes to catering. Since 2013 the charmingly rustic venue has “farmed out” their culinary creations, in the best way possible. “We are committed to the farm-to-table philosophy by sourcing from the local farmers of the Pioneer Valley, with many vegetables coming from our own Farm Center,” says Mike McKenna, director of event services and summer programs at the campus. And it’s the guests who are eating it up with menus that offer delectables like wild mushroom empanadas with chimichurri dipping sauce, flank steak roulade stuffed with roasted red pepper, caramelized onion and gorgonzola and a Pioneer Valley cheese display with locally sourced cheeses garnished with fresh and dried fruits and breads. The 2,600-square-foot venue also has a lot of flavor with a post-and-beam structure filled with original wide-panel flooring and modern amenities that include full-service A/V, heating and cooling systems and a covered deck with views of the Pioneer Valley Mountains.

*UniqueVenues.com/HampshireCollege // (413) 559.5699*

**Runners Up:** Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus (Woodstock, IL, [UniqueVenues.com/LUCRetreatCenter](http://UniqueVenues.com/LUCRetreatCenter)), University of Nebraska (Lincoln, NE, [UniqueVenues.com/UnivNebraska](http://UniqueVenues.com/UnivNebraska))

## BEST RURAL VENUE

Winner: ***Arden Shisler Conference Center***, Wooster, OH

Venues off the beaten path can often lead you on a trail to something truly special, such as the Arden Shisler Conference Center, which sits at the “gateway to Amish Country” in Wooster, Ohio. “We are in the rolling hills of North East and North Central Ohio, surrounded by farmland,” says Conference Manager Hannah Roscoe of the lush setting. The conference center is a part of Ohio State University, home to the Ohio Agricultural Research & Development Center (the largest of its kind in the country) that has attracted prominent groups such as Land O’ Lakes, Monsanto’s Dairy Division and the Tri-County Beekeepers Association. Available on-site is 25,000 square feet of space for up to 500 people, including a courtyard that has hosted wedding ceremonies, tailgate parties and other outdoor events. In addition to an 87-acre arboretum on-site, another draw is speakers. “Because of the research done on this campus, there are brilliant keynote speakers available on a variety of agricultural topics,” says Roscoe.

*UniqueVenues.com/ShislerConfCtr // (330) 263.5501*

**Runners Up:** The Red Barn at Hampshire College (Amherst, MA, [UniqueVenues.com/HampshireCollege](http://UniqueVenues.com/HampshireCollege)), Lake Williamson Retreat Center (Carlinville, IL, [UniqueVenues.com/LakeWilliamsonCenter](http://UniqueVenues.com/LakeWilliamsonCenter))



### *Arden Shisler Conference Center*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: THE RED BARN AT HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE, ARDEN SHISLER CONFERENCE CENTER.



## BEST HIGH-TECH VENUE

Winner: **McNamara Alumni Center**, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Planners looking for an upgrade from conventional technology at conventional venues often plug in to venues like University of Minnesota's McNamara Alumni Center. "Of the client surveys returned to us in 2015, 85% rated McNamara's A/V technology a 5 out of 5," says Director of Marketing and Sales Amy T. Leyden. Each of the 10 rooms has built-in, custom-designed services included in the rental, including podiums with microphones, screens and projectors and handheld and lapel wireless microphones. There's also free wireless Internet on the first floor and DIRECTV receivers in all rooms so guests can always stay linked in while on-site. In addition, McNamara Alumni Center works with a variety of vendors for high-quality web conferencing and live streaming video presentations, including the option for high-definition recording and video overflow to multiple areas within the venue. (A team with 75 years of combined experience is also at the ready to help set up.) "In 2016 we plan to upgrade room signage to digital, which will provide instant information and changes through our EMS room-booking software," says Leyden.

[UniqueVenues.com/mcnamara](http://UniqueVenues.com/mcnamara) // (612) 625.8876

**Runners Up:** University of Georgia Hotel and Conference Center (Athens, GA, [UniqueVenues.com/ugcce](http://UniqueVenues.com/ugcce)), Kean University (Union, NJ, [UniqueVenues.com/keanuniversity](http://UniqueVenues.com/keanuniversity))

## BEST VENUE TO ENJOY WHEN THE MEETING IS OVER

Winner: **Vancouver Art Gallery**, Vancouver, BC

Where's the after party? At the Vancouver Art Gallery you're already there. After meetings wrap up at the special event venue, guests can kick back and enjoy themselves by exploring all that the gallery has to offer. That includes four floors of historic and contemporary art exhibitions that rotate 15-20 exhibitions every year. "Private tours and workshops can be added to receptions and events at the gallery," says Rosemary Pulice, venue rental coordinator, noting that guests usually stay an extra one to three hours on premises. The Gallery Café is another point of interest where attendees can grab a bite to eat and enjoy "one of the city's best patio experiences" with an Italian-inspired terrace that overlooks the scenic Robson Square. One of the most entertaining activities might actually be shopping for art you can take home with you, says Pulice. "Our Art Rentals and Sales Showroom is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, for the bonding experience of selecting artwork for the office as a group."

[UniqueVenues.ca/VancouverArtGallery](http://UniqueVenues.ca/VancouverArtGallery) // (604) 662.4714

**Runners Up:** Silver Bay YMCA - Conference and Family Retreat Center (Silver Bay, NY, [UniqueVenues.com/SilverBayYMCA](http://UniqueVenues.com/SilverBayYMCA)), University of Maryland, College Park (College Park, MD, [UniqueVenues.com/umcollegepark](http://UniqueVenues.com/umcollegepark))

**McNamara Alumni Center**



**Vancouver Art Gallery**



PHOTOS COURTESY OF: MCNAMARA ALUMNI CENTER, SAM HASSAS..





*St. Lawrence College Conference Services*



*The Duncan Family Sky Room at Saint Peter's University*

## BEST VENUE FOR SMALL GATHERINGS

Winner: *St. Lawrence College Conference Services*, Kingston, ON

When it comes to small meetings and events, small details are everything. St. Lawrence College understands that by providing conference staff on call. "We do our best to personally schedule and book your room to the most accessible area," says Conference Service Sales & Marketing Manager Amelia Campbell. Some options include the 60-person Empire Board Room that can be arranged into banquet, boardroom or classroom style or a U-shape or hollow square space, depending on the group's needs. There's also the quaint Fireside Room for less than 60 people that lets intimate groups gather around a central hearth. Summer accommodations are also available and, "We make sure to block rooms in certain wings to keep all conference delegates together," she says. One particular client, the Edgar Casey Conference, has also used the size of their groups to their benefit hosting yoga in the meeting rooms. Whatever a planner chooses to do on-site, Campbell says, "Our meeting rooms, dining rooms, technology and staff can provide small groups a terrific experience at a reasonable cost."

[UniqueVenues.ca/StLawrence](http://UniqueVenues.ca/StLawrence) // (613) 544.5400

**Runners Up:** Iona College (New Rochelle, NY, [UniqueVenues.com/ionacollege](http://UniqueVenues.com/ionacollege)), The Amber Room Colonnade (Danbury, CT, [UniqueVenues.com/amberroom](http://UniqueVenues.com/amberroom))

## BEST TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT VENUE

Winner: *The Duncan Family Sky Room at Saint Peter's University*, Jersey City, NJ

When St. Peter's University built the Mac Mahon Student Center, it was "with the intention of bringing the community together," says Lauren LaGreca, Manager of Conferencing and Event Services. While that idea certainly applies to the students and faculty who regularly use the venue, it also extends to the external clients and businesses such as Jersey City Public Schools and Headstart Programs that often book the sixth floor marquee—the LEED Silver certified Duncan Family Sky Room. Here groups find a collaborative learning environment with 8,000 square feet of space outfitted with state-of-the-art A/V including professional surround sound and video conferencing that allows for enhanced educational opportunities. With air walls, the room itself can be divided into three spaces and configured in a myriad of ways, including a popular trend of soft seating to encourage collaboration and creativity. Says LaGreca, "The ability for customization in order to captivate a team is an immeasurable benefit [for planners]. Here, the space is their canvas."

[UniqueVenues.com/SaintPetersUniv](http://UniqueVenues.com/SaintPetersUniv) // (201) 761.7414

**Runners Up:** MacEwan University (Edmonton, AB, [UniqueVenues.ca/MacEwanUniv](http://UniqueVenues.ca/MacEwanUniv)), Georgian Conference and Event Services (Barrie, ON, [UniqueVenues.ca/GeorgianConferenceServices](http://UniqueVenues.ca/GeorgianConferenceServices))



## BEST PLACE TO GATHER FOR THE DAY

Winner: **Navy Pier**, Chicago, IL

Nine million visitors every year can't be wrong. The huge draws of public visitors and event attendees who flock to Navy Pier Chicago every year find it to be a suitable day meeting center for its impeccable location on Lake Michigan and attractions such as the Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, the iconic Ferris Wheel and a whole fleet of charter boats that offer lunch and dinner cruises along Lake Michigan. Organizers of conferences, tradeshow, banquets and business meetings will also marvel at the 300,000 square feet of flexible use space available for rent including two exhibit halls, 36 meeting rooms, an historic Grand Ballroom, Lakeview Terrace and tented Rooftop Terrace. Further amenities include A/V services, enclosed parking and covered drop-off areas as well as a breadth of on-site dining including Chicago staples like Giordano's, Harry Caray's Tavern and Big Bowl.

[UniqueVenues.com/NavyPier](http://UniqueVenues.com/NavyPier) // (312) 595.5300

**Runners Up:** Metro Meeting Centers - Boston (Boston, MA, [UniqueVenues.com/MetroMeetingBoston](http://UniqueVenues.com/MetroMeetingBoston)), The Franklin Institute (Philadelphia, PA, [UniqueVenues.com/FranklinInst](http://UniqueVenues.com/FranklinInst))

## BEST VENUE FOR A REUNION

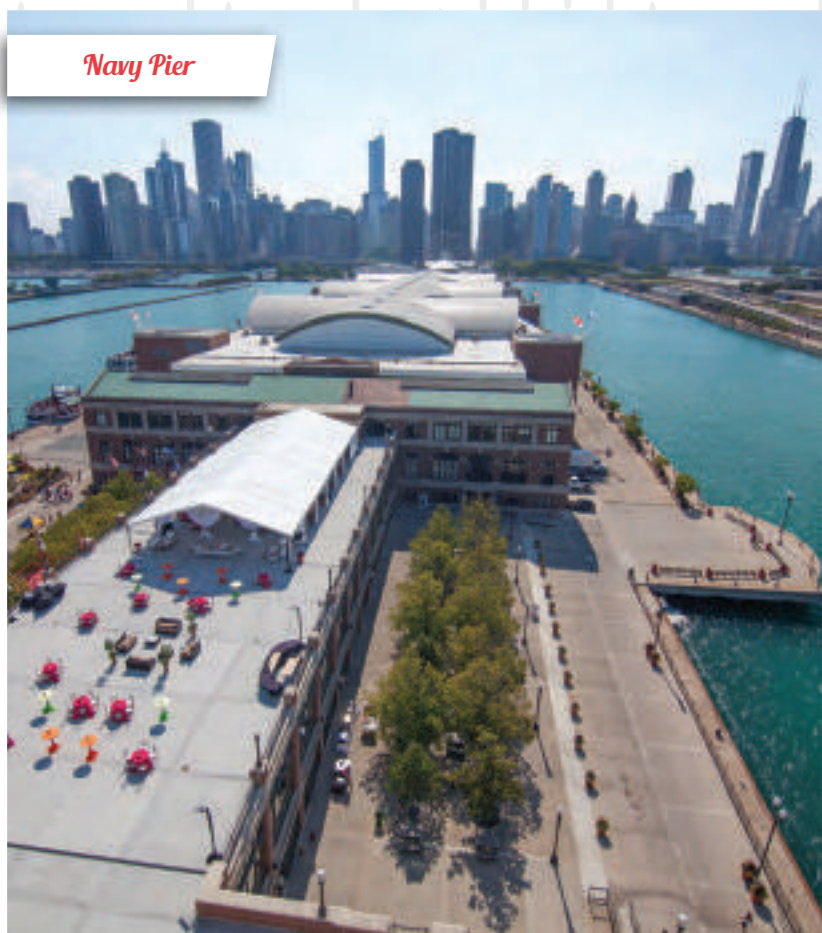
Winner: **Silver Bay YMCA - Conference and Family Retreat Center**, Silver Bay, NY

Reunited and it feels so good is the sentiment many groups have had at Silver Bay YMCA in upstate New York, honored in this category for a second consecutive year. "Silver Bay YMCA continues to [look for ways to] strengthen families by offering inter-generational programs and affordable accommodations. We pride ourselves in offering a range that suits not only the needs of the reunion, but also offers a variety of pricing options," says Sales and Marketing Director Liz Hinck. That means creating day camp programs with craft shops and swim lessons for children and providing activities for all ages to come together such as scavenger hunts, beach parties, square dancing and trivia nights—all set on a beautiful 700-acre lakefront campus in the Adirondacks. Encompassing more than 60 buildings, it's also on the National Register of Historic Places for its architecture from the Arts and Crafts movement. Family dinners are also a special time with varied options available including formal dinners and barbecues or even having the chef replicate a family recipe. Says Hinck, "[Anyone] can put a personal stamp on their reunion."

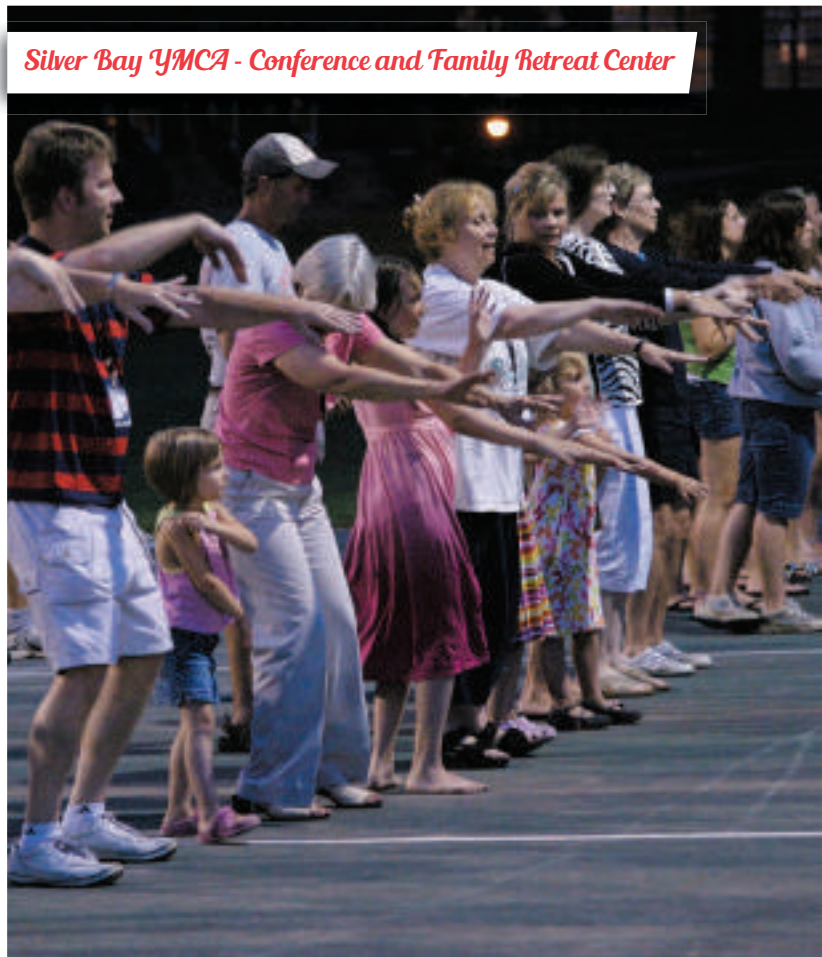
[UniqueVenues.com/SilverBayYMCA](http://UniqueVenues.com/SilverBayYMCA) // (518) 543.8833

**Runners Up:** Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 (Halifax, NS, [UniqueVenues.ca/CaMuseumImmigration](http://UniqueVenues.ca/CaMuseumImmigration)), Bella Vista Estate (Steamboat Springs, CO, [UniqueVenues.com/BellaVista](http://UniqueVenues.com/BellaVista))

**Navy Pier**



**Silver Bay YMCA - Conference and Family Retreat Center**



PHOTOS COURTESY OF: NAVY PIER, SILVER BAY YMCA.





*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

## BEST VENUE TO HOST A YOUTH MEETING OR SPORTS CAMP

Winner: **University of Nevada, Las Vegas**, Las Vegas, NV

Beyond the bright lights and buzzing nightlife of Las Vegas is a city that also appeals to families and children. At the heart of that is the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, which routinely attracts youth groups such as the Latino Youth Leadership Conference, Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar, USA Volleyball, American Regions Mathematics League and Upward Bound. A prominent feature is the 165,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art recreation center, built in 2008, that features two pools, four basketball courts, an indoor track and fully-equipped meeting rooms. All are in close proximity to residence halls that welcome summer groups of up to 1,500 guests. Other meeting options include smart meeting rooms, academic classrooms and ballrooms, all of which are facilitated through a certified One-Stop Shop. "Our services include customized room configurations, parking and security coordination and full-service catering," notes Assistant Director, Sales and Business Operations Heather Rappaport.

[UniqueVenues.com/UNLV](http://UniqueVenues.com/UNLV) // (702) 895.2643

**Runners Up:** The Student Life Center at East-West University Multi-purpose Room (Chicago, IL, [UniqueVenues.com/SLC@EWU](mailto:UniqueVenues.com/SLC@EWU)), University of New Brunswick Conference Services (Fredericton, NB, [UniqueVenues.ca/UNB](http://UniqueVenues.ca/UNB))



*Waterview*

## BEST CITY CENTER VENUE

Winner: **Waterview**, Vancouver, BC

It only opened in May 2015, but already Waterview is taking the city of Vancouver by storm as a go-to source for corporate parties, fundraisers, wedding ceremonies and association annual meetings. "Waterview features an open space flooded with natural light and expansive cityscape views that give a uniquely urban Vancouver experience," says Special Projects Coordinator Carla Felicella. "Guests are immersed in a dynamic visual experience seeing the energetic flow of False Creek, enjoying views of lively Granville Island and watching sunsets over the iconic Burrard Street Bridge." The other unique aspect to Waterview's location is access from various points in the city, including arriving by boat or ferries at the venue's private dock. The building, designed by world-renowned architect Bing Thom, has a further nautical vibe with picture windows. Inside is 3,250 square feet of flexible space and amenities including exclusive catering from Culinary Capers as well as complimentary Wi-Fi and eco-friendly composting services.

[UniqueVenues.ca/WaterviewBC](http://UniqueVenues.ca/WaterviewBC) // (604) 875.0153

**Runners Up:** Navy Pier (Chicago, IL, [UniqueVenues.com/NavyPier](http://UniqueVenues.com/NavyPier)), Simon Fraser University Morris Wosk Centre for Dialogue (Vancouver, BC, [UniqueVenues.ca/MorrisWosk](http://UniqueVenues.ca/MorrisWosk))

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: R. MARSH STARKS, JOHN WATSON.



## MOST EASILY ACCESSIBLE VENUE

Winner: **University of Maryland, College Park**, College Park, MD

Planes, trains and automobiles—all will get you to the University of Maryland with ease. Located just nine miles from Washington, D.C., “We are within a six-hour drive of three-quarters of the population of the United States,” says Marketing & Sales Coordinator Joseph E. Criscuoli. Within 35 minutes guests can also access Ronald Reagan National Airport, Baltimore-Washington International Airport and Dulles International Airport, and there’s a nearby Washington METRO stop for further transit options. Once on-site the 1,600-acre campus, groups can tap into nearly 200,000 square feet of meeting spaces in 100 meeting rooms, five ballrooms and a variety of multi-function spaces (capacities range from 15 to a grand total of 17,000 people). With all the influx of visitors the centrally located college has had (upwards of 50,000 people daily), they will soon be expanding with two on-campus hotels in 2017.

[UniqueVenues.com/umcollegepark](http://UniqueVenues.com/umcollegepark) // (301) 314.7884

**Runners Up:** 3 West Club (New York, NY, [UniqueVenues.com/3West](http://UniqueVenues.com/3West)), Villanova University Conferences, (Villanova, PA, [UniqueVenues.com/VillanovaUniv](http://UniqueVenues.com/VillanovaUniv))

## BEST PLACE FOR A SPIRITUAL OR WELLNESS GATHERING

Winner: **Lake Williamson Christian Center**, Carlinville, IL

There are higher powers at work at Lake Williamson Christian Center, much to the delight of denominational planners. “We fully believe in the power of off-site ministry. Our mission is to offer hospitality and facilities that exceed expectations where our guests can be restored, renewed and reconnected to God,” says Marketing Manager Ashley Haschemeyer of the 55-year-old property that last year welcomed 26,000-plus guests. With 400 acres, the sprawling grounds have a little something for everyone, from meeting rooms accommodating 15 to 1,300 people when assemblies are needed to the Eagle Crest Adventures programming that offers team-building, character development, and leadership training opportunities. Lake Williamson also has 183 guest rooms and an RV Park with 200 full hook-up sites. Retreat packages have become a preferred option for planners with a choice of lodging style, complimentary meeting spaces, buffet dining, and basic recreation—all bundled in one affordable price per person. Says Haschemeyer, “We will handle the setup and clean up so that you can stay focused on providing life-changing ministry to your attendees.”

[UniqueVenues.com/LakeWilliamsonCenter](http://UniqueVenues.com/LakeWilliamsonCenter) // (800) 500.5922

**Runners Up:** Silver Bay YMCA - Conference and Family Retreat Center (Silver Bay, NY, [UniqueVenues.com/SilverBayYMCA](http://UniqueVenues.com/SilverBayYMCA)), Eagle Rock Retreat Center (Eagle Rock, MO, [UniqueVenues.com/EagleRockRetreatCtr](http://UniqueVenues.com/EagleRockRetreatCtr))

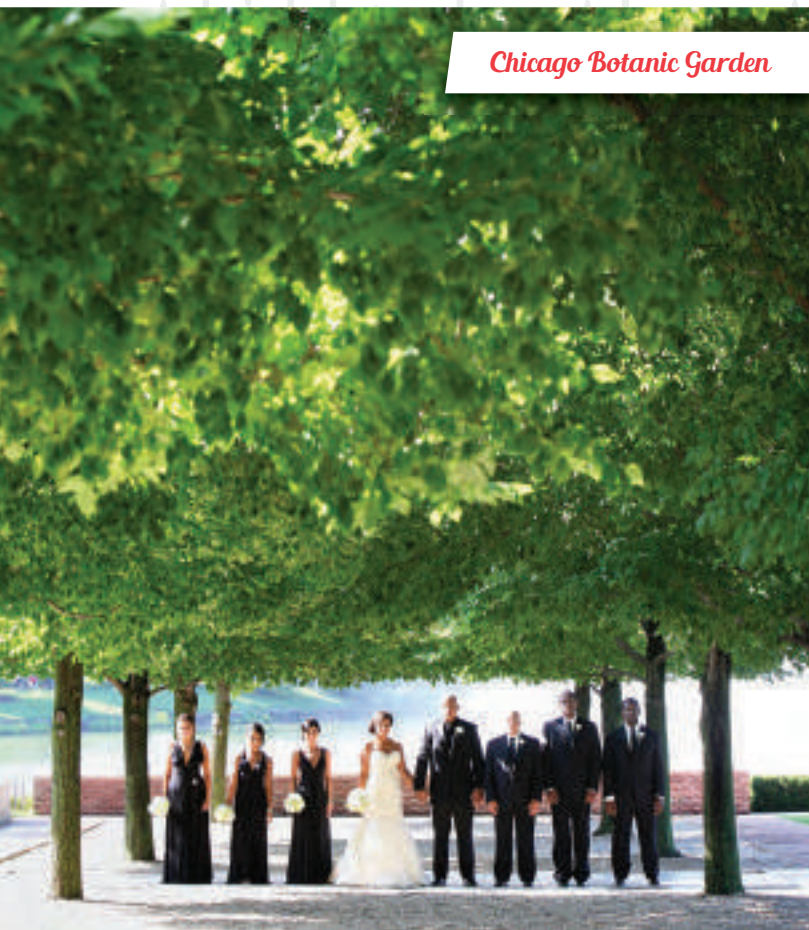
### University of Maryland, College Park



### Lake Williamson Christian Center

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: JOHN T. CONSOLI, LAKE WILLIAMSON CHRISTIAN CENTER.





*Chicago Botanic Garden*



*Colorado State University*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN, RYAN BURKE.

## BEST GREEN VENUE

Winner: **Chicago Botanic Garden**, Glencoe, IL

At the Chicago Botanic Garden, you might expect this special event venue to have a green thumb, but it's their green footprint that really sets the property apart. The site's Ada L. Rice Plant Conservation Science Center has been Gold LEED certified for its rainwater systems, roof garden, recycled building materials and the bike racks and showers that encourage employees to cycle to work. Some of the most compelling eco-friendly initiatives though come from the Sodexo catering department and the nationally recognized Windy City Harvest, an urban agriculture education and jobs-training program. It oversees the Fruit and Vegetable Island that uses produce for daily specials and event menus, even ensuring brides and grooms choose their menus with peak growing season in mind. The Garden, which hosts 16 lush indoor and outdoor spaces, also recycles and composts event waste, incorporates biodegradable disposables made from fallen leaves and sustainable bamboo and recycles all wine corks from the bar service.

[UniqueVenues.com/ChicagoBotanicGarden](http://UniqueVenues.com/ChicagoBotanicGarden) // (847) 835.8370

**Runners Up:** Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA, [UniqueVenues.com/GeorgiaTech](http://UniqueVenues.com/GeorgiaTech)), Vanderbilt University, (Nashville, TN, [UniqueVenues.com/Vanderbilt](http://UniqueVenues.com/Vanderbilt))

## BEST SUBURBAN VENUE

Winner: **Colorado State University**, Fort Collins, CO

Named one of the top ten places to live and work in national polls the past five years, Fort Collins is becoming quite the destination suburb—and planners in the know are turning to the town's Colorado State University to host memorable meetings and events. Located halfway between metro Denver and Rocky Mountain National Park, "Our visitors can enjoy our suburban atmosphere without hassle or breaking the bank," says Dezarai Brubaker, director of conference and event services. The self-contained, one-square-mile campus offers more than 50,000 square feet of new and renovated meeting space, 23,000 square feet of innovative classroom space and almost 6,000 beds, all booked by the certified One-Stop Shop. On-site guests can enjoy the Lory Student Center and eats at RamSkellar (a student-run pub with its own microbrewery). Or, just minutes away, is the city's first bus rapid transit system, MAX. It can transport guests to midtown and a downtown district so charming that Disneyland's Main Street was modeled after it. **uv**

[UniqueVenues.com/CSU](http://UniqueVenues.com/CSU) // (970) 491.1378

**Runners Up:** University of Central Oklahoma (Edmond, OK, [UniqueVenues.com/UnivCentralOk](http://UniqueVenues.com/UnivCentralOk)), The University of Texas at Dallas (Richardson, TX, [UniqueVenues.com/univtexasdallas](http://UniqueVenues.com/univtexasdallas))





Professionalism and consistency.  
That's what keeps our clients coming  
back for more than 20 years.



GLENN MOORE, VP, DELMARVA POWER, FLANKED BY UD TEAM MEMBERS KAREN SUNKLER, EVENT MANAGER (L), AND POLLY WEIR, DIRECTOR (R)

University of Delaware's Conference Services has been consistently providing exceptional meeting and event services for many satisfied clients, year after year. We help them strategize their objectives and our personal event managers coordinate every detail from start to finish – two more reasons they've come to rely on us.

## UD Conference Services

800-823-2214 [www.udel.edu/conferences](http://www.udel.edu/conferences)





Easiest place  
to host a better  
meeting.



convene™

- Capacity for 2—400 participants
- Free high-speed Wi-Fi
- State-of-the-art technology
- On-site tech support
- Fresh culinary offerings
- Per person package pricing



**Meetings**  
**Corporate Events**  
**Trainings**

**New York City**  
Times Square  
Midtown East  
Grand Central  
Financial District

**convene.com**  
**888.730.7307**

**Washington, DC**  
Tysons Corner



UNIQUE VENUES PRESENTS THE



2015 BEST OF AWARD WINNERS

# *The* BEST *in* MARKET

UNIQUE VENUES BEST OF AWARDS DON'T JUST STOP AT THE VENUES.  
WE ALSO RECOGNIZE ALL THAT GOES ON BEHIND THE SCENES, INCLUDING  
THE EFFORTS OF THESE FIVE MARKETING MASTERS.

*The message is clear*—these five venues know how to sell their spaces and did it well in 2015. From a completely overhauled website to a virtual tie for polished pieces of marketing collateral, these winners really turned the page.

*by Selena Fragassi*

---

## BEST MARKETING COLLATERAL

---

Winner (TIE): *SPiN New York* (New York, NY) and  
*Yale University* (New Haven, CT)

From a ping pong-centric special event venue to one of the world's most revered Ivy League schools, the two winners for best marketing collateral could not be more different, a fact evident in two effective messages for two very distinct audiences.

SPiN New York gave its 14-page brochure a youthful glow with compelling caricatures that kept a narrative flow and a supporting wall of urban, graffiti-style imagery that aimed to cater to both a modern and young demographic but also appeal to planners looking for something different. "We [wanted to hit] a unique audience of planners that may have never considered a social ping pong club for their event or group activity. We are now activating more national advertising channels to raise brand awareness within the event and meeting planner community," says Global Sales Director Lou Canakes, CMP of the extensive print piece that supports all of SPiN's North American and Belgian locations. "This is a departure [for us] in terms of the venue approach and our advertising strategy."

Yale University opted for a more minimalist, one-page design that features an abundance of white space. Doing so allows the prominent chapel photo to stand out—a key factor in trying to tempt planners to consider the hallowed grounds as an option for summer retreats. It was the first time the department opted to target a specific market in a campaign and has yielded favorable results. "Yale University has a very robust youth summer academic program business. The new marketing materials were aimed at an adult demographic, [specifically] looking to attract select Fortune 100 companies to bring their executive retreats to Yale," notes Kathryn Vieillard, associate director of Yale Conferences and Events who says the team intentionally opted not to overload the page with too much text as they've seen in competitors' materials. "I like to let the photo and the name speak for itself."

[UniqueVenues.com/SpinNY](http://UniqueVenues.com/SpinNY) // (214) 862.4646

[UniqueVenues.com/yale](http://UniqueVenues.com/yale) // (203) 432.0465



---

## BEST WEBSITE

---

Winner: *Boston University* (Boston, MA)

Boston University Events & Conferences was feeling the six-year itch. The department was caught in a website designed in 2009 that was informative, "but very basic," admits General Manager Shane Cutler. He knew his team had to do something in order to keep the attention of new and returning external clients as well as provide event support to university departments in an efficient one-stop portal.

The decision was made to design a new template that would act as a major marketing tool while also providing important event-planning materials. It took 18 months from the initial concept to launching the final product in early 2015, and it has since become "the lynchpin of all our marketing initiatives including our newly created marketing/sales collateral kit," says Cutler.

The custom Wordpress design was crafted by BU's Marketing & Communications department and features a sophisticated blend of text and photos with a spotlight on facilities. It's complete with photography and descriptions for each venue, a list of internal service providers, event planning tips and online inquiry forms. In the near future, the site will also feature Social Tables OnSite, a library of common event configurations that can be downloaded for use by planners; another long-term development aims to offer online booking capabilities with a new university-wide system for room scheduling.

[UniqueVenues.com/BostonUniv](http://UniqueVenues.com/BostonUniv) // (617) 353.3520

**Runner Up:** The Loft at 600 F (Washington, D.C.)  
[UniqueVenues.com/Loftat600F](http://UniqueVenues.com/Loftat600F) // (202) 431.8516





## BEST PRINT AD

Winner: **University of New Hampshire Conferences and Catering** (Durham, NH)

You can't get much more iconic than the song, "School's Out For Summer," but for collegiate conference departments, fighting the message that "school is out completely" during the season is a yearly battle. It's one that the University of New Hampshire decided to take on in their latest print ad that sets the mood with an idyllic sunset and the bold message that summer conferences are in when school is out.

"We've found that there is a common misconception that campuses are closed during the summer and don't have a lot to offer conference groups. Instead, we wanted to give potential clients the impression that we are ready to host their next summer group and let them know they pretty much have the run of campus when students aren't here," says Sales & Marketing Manager Melissa Chase of the rationale for the ad, which first appeared in the Fall 2015 issue of Unique Venues Magazine and will further be utilized over the next six months in display ads, e-mail marketing campaigns and direct mail.

"It was important to really focus on summer business in this particular ad as we are committed to growing that market," she continues. "It's a very different audience than a typical day meeting, overnight corporate group or special event. Our hope has been to engage the summer conference planner by speaking their language."

[UniqueVenues.com/UnivNewHampshire](http://UniqueVenues.com/UnivNewHampshire) // (603) 862.1900

**Runner Up:** University of Central Oklahoma (Edmond, OK) // [UniqueVenues.com/UnivCentralOk](http://UniqueVenues.com/UnivCentralOk) // (405) 974.2715

## BEST SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

Winner: **The Loft at 600 F** (Washington, D.C.)

In today's world being "social" carries a whole new set of standards—and some like The Loft at 600 F not only meet them, but set them. The special event venue in Washington, D.C. has a strong presence across multiple platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Google+, Pinterest and Instagram, "and we are toying with a few other different platforms," divulges Client Relations liaison Evangeline Johnson. All accounts are updated on a daily basis, sometimes multiple times during the day, with a different strategy for each network.

Facebook is used for article sharing with posts offering helpful event planning tips, photos and galleries from events and mentions of the venue in the press. Instagram has become an extension of the venue's concierge services, says Johnson. "We believe that if you work in hospitality, part of your job is to know your town inside and out and share that knowledge with guests," and the team adheres to that message posting "in-the-moment" shots of eateries, markets, venues and entertainment they are checking out. Twitter, she says, is the most social of them all with a mix of funny comments, posts about office happenings, updates about events and real-time chats. "Twitter is hands down the best way to engage in conversations with customers and earn new ones."

The team has three goals for all social media activity: Add value, enhance business and have fun. "We look at our social media accounts as a way for people to get a glimpse of our personality and the things that make us stand out amongst D.C.'s excellent event venues," says Johnson. "We love our space and we love what we do, and we are happy to put that on stage." [UniqueVenues.com/Loftat600F](http://UniqueVenues.com/Loftat600F) // (202) 431.8516

**Runner Up:** Bella Vista Estate (Steamboat Springs, CO) // [UniqueVenues.com/BellaVista](http://UniqueVenues.com/BellaVista) // (970) 879.4449





# THE STUDENT LIFE CENTER AT EAST-WEST UNIVERSITY

17th Floor Outdoor Terrace



Double Occupancy Bedroom



Conference Room West



**MAGNIFICENT  
VIEWS  
REASONABLE  
PRICING**

## AMENITIES

- Auditorium with seating for 205 and all-inclusive audio/visual
- Flexible conference rooms and classrooms for group sizes of 5-60
- Computer labs with all-inclusive audio/visual
- Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout building
- Seasonal apartment-style housing with complimentary laundry
- Full-size gymnasium and two fitness centers
- On-site catering available

**CALL TODAY!**

*Great* **DOWNTOWN  
CHICAGO LOCATION**

829 S. WABASH AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60605 | **312.939.0112**





## Why Coppin State University...

Competitive rates with year round availability.

Rooms ideal for groups of 45 to more than 4500, with audiovisual equipment, complimentary WIFI, onsite catering and more.

Short drive to Baltimore's most popular tourist attraction, the Inner Harbor and minutes from interstate highways 83 and 95.

Visit us at [www.coppin.edu/ecs](http://www.coppin.edu/ecs) \* [eventservices@coppin.edu](mailto:eventservices@coppin.edu) \* 410-951-3571

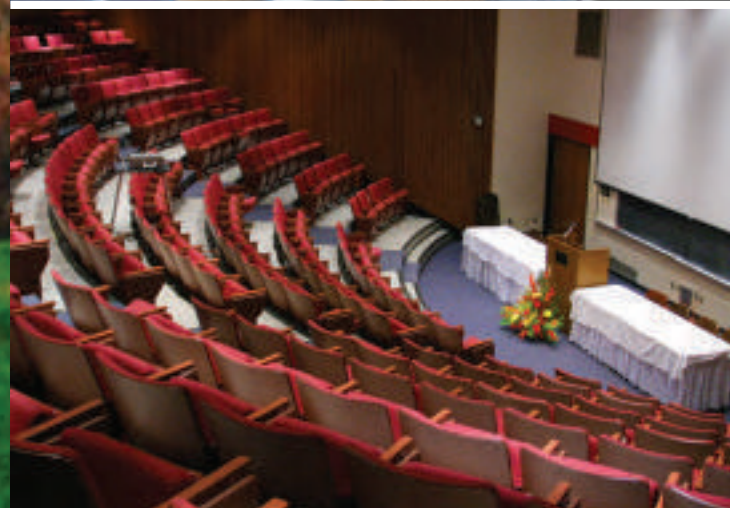




HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE

# Event Services

- ➔ Year round meeting facilities that can accommodate groups from 5 to 1,000 persons
- ➔ Over 50 meeting rooms and event spaces available
- ➔ Event Service staff to coordinate your entire event
- ➔ On site catering that offers fresh, innovative and sustainably sourced options that can be tailored to your group
- ➔ Full service audio-visual and media support: wireless internet, screens and projectors, microphones, sound systems and videoconferencing





# NEWS & AWARDS

## Unique Venues Marketing Conference



## And The Award Goes To...

At Unique Venues 4th Annual Marketing Conference, we celebrated all 25 Best Of winners.

*THERE WAS A BUZZ BUILDING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.,* as Unique Venues members converged on Catholic University of America for two days of working sessions acquiring tools to “capitalize on marketing and sales.” While workshops focused on using improv skills to become better communicators and learning how to implement virtual tours, the main event was the final luncheon where participants learned if they were one of the 2015 Unique Venues “Best Of” winners who would take home a “UVy” award. Here’s a look back at the #UVAMC scrapbook:

**1.** Bill North, of Historic Rosemont Manor (center), joins participants in the collaboration exercise, “The Recipe for Event Success.” **2.** (l-r) Angela Dimopoulos from University of Maryland, College Park and Julia Clarke from University of New Brunswick enjoy the awards luncheon buffet, which offered authentic Asian cuisine. **3.** A look at the coveted UVy award presented to 20 “Best Of” venue winners. **4.** “Best Of” marketing awards were also given to the winners



of best website, print ad, social media presence, marketing collateral and the Professional of the Year. **5.** Special guest Izzy Gessell (center) leads a morning presentation on “The Power of Story to Build Relationships.” **6.** (l-r) Alexis Milam and Polly Weir, both of the University of Delaware, accept their UVy for “Best Place to Hold an LGBTQ-friendly event.” **7.** Unique Venues President Chuck Salem (right) shares a laugh with Joe Criscuoli of University of Maryland, College Park, winner of the “Most Easily Accessible Venue” award. **8.** Dezarai Brubaker and Elodie Vigneron, both of Colorado State University, accept the UVy for “Best Suburban Venue.” **9.** Unique Venues Founder Michele Nichols (right) poses with Andrew Clouse of The Loft at 600F holding his award for “Best Social Media Presence.” **10.** The room was buzzing at the “Best Of” awards luncheon, from beginning to end. Congratulations to all the winners and runners up! **uv**

RICHARD ESPINOSA PHOTOGRAPHY • BRIAN AMBROSIO PHOTOGRAPHY • STEPHEN CHARLES PHOTOGRAPHY



**THE BUSHNELL**  
 166 CAPITOL AVE  
 HARTFORD, CT  
**860-987-6044**  
[bushnell.org](http://bushnell.org)

Stage Your Next Event!



## I WANT TO MEET *At a Place*

*Where* my general session is held in grand manor house of the Norman Revival vernacular with no air walls

*Where* I can dine in an ancient Turkish mosque

*Where* I choose to hold my breakouts in a library created with hand-carved Louis XIV oak paneling from 17th Century

*Where* I can ascend a circular stair tower and retire to a magnificent four-poster bed fit for the king or queen that I am

*While staying stateside*

WINSTON-SALEM, NC 800-472-9596 [WWW.GRAYLYN.COM](http://WWW.GRAYLYN.COM)






# We Bring Hundreds of Choices to the Table



Your table becomes spectacular with DC Rental.

Select from our extraordinary—often exclusive—offering of glassware, fine china, designer table linens, flatware, chairs, distinctive furniture and more.

Whatever your event...wherever you hold it...DC Rental delivers.

 **DC RENTAL**

[www.dcrental.com](http://www.dcrental.com)

Phone: 703/671-7300

**unique**  
**venues**  
you belong here™

[uniquevenues.com](http://uniquevenues.com)

**we'll find a venue for you, free**



Shannon Glover,  
Venue Specialist

- Call 866.266.6857. Give us your dates, attendance, location preferences.
- Our venue specialists will contact the venues that match your requirements.
- The venues will respond directly to you.  
No fees, no commission.

[uniquevenues.com/assisted-search](http://uniquevenues.com/assisted-search) | 866.266.6857





## ***Southern Heritage. Southern Tradition. Southern Style.***

**Affordable & Flexible • Peaceful Locales & Hospitable Staff**  
**Large-Scale Dining Facilities & Catering Services • On-site Retail Locations**  
**On-Campus Housing Accommodations For All Group Sizes**  
**State-of-the-Art Recreation Activity Center • Spacious Meeting Venues**



**GEORGIA SOUTHERN**  
UNIVERSITY

### ***Conference Services***

97 Georgia Ave. Building 465, Statesboro, GA 30458  
[www.meetatSouthern.com](http://www.meetatSouthern.com) • (912) 478-1193  
[conferenceservices@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:conferenceservices@georgiasouthern.edu)  
Facebook: [@GSUConfServ](https://www.facebook.com/ConferencesatGSU)



Larry H. Miller Campus

# CONFERENCING & FACILITY RENTAL

## *Flexible Spaces to Suit All Your Needs*

Salt Lake Community College's Miller Campus is a convenient and inexpensive conference and meeting facility located just 20 minutes from downtown Salt Lake City. This beautiful south valley location is perfect for business, educational and private events. This is an ideal event venue for full-service trade shows, corporate trainings, conventions, events, meetings & banquets. We have five approved caterers to meet any of your dining needs. We are also approved to serve alcohol at our campus.

### **23 Separate Meeting Rooms**

High-tech "smart classrooms", computer labs and multipurpose rooms.

### **500 Seat Conference Room**

Flexible setups with 15' screens in eight expandable rooms.

### **300 Seat Auditorium**

State-of-the-art with tiered seating. Audio and video conferencing and recording.

### **Vendor Hall**

Free with the rental of eight or more booths or rental of the showroom and auditorium.

### **Showroom**

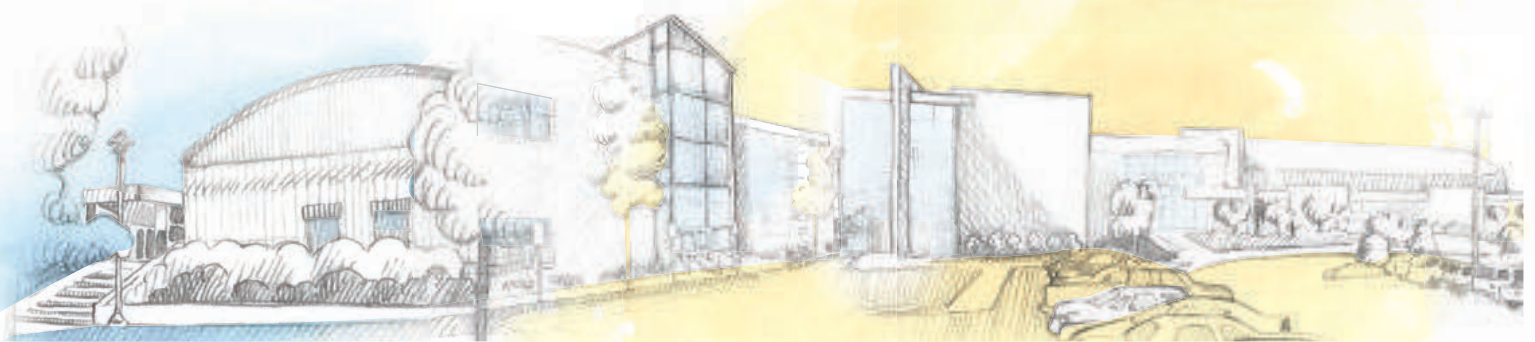
Versatile space for banquets, vendor shows & social events.

### **Outdoor Patio and Lawn Area**

Ideal space for your outdoor event.

### **Free Parking**

Over 850 parking stalls. Convenient to local hotels restaurants, shopping and recreation.



AA/EQ Institution

SALT LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE | MILLER CAMPUS | 9750 SOUTH 300 WEST | SANDY, UT 84070

[www.mbrcsbcc.com/conferencing](http://www.mbrcsbcc.com/conferencing) | 801-957-5294





*There's always*  
**SOMETHING TO SEE.**



**SPRINGS PRESERVE®**  
[www.springspreserve.org](http://www.springspreserve.org)

The Springs Preserve is 180 spectacular acres of museums, gardens, culture and healthy living with a variety of indoor and outdoor events.

For details and to explore even more, visit [springspreserve.org](http://springspreserve.org).

Exhibits \$9.95 for adults,  
\$4.95 for kids 5 yrs. and older.

702-822-7700  
U.S. 95 and Valley View Blvd.

follow us on:





# start your SEARCH *now*

THE FOLLOWING PAGES FEATURE A COMPREHENSIVE INDEX OF ALL THE UNIQUE VENUES MEMBERS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA. EACH LISTING IS ORGANIZED ALPHABETICALLY FOR EASE OF USE AND FEATURES THE NAME OF THE VENUE, CITY AND UNIQUE VENUES WEBSITE ADDRESS, WHICH HOLDS EVEN MORE INFORMATION FOR PLANNERS.

*For in-depth information  
including photos, video,  
rental fees and more, visit*

**UniqueVenues.com**

*and*

**UniqueVenues.ca**



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner



## USA

### ALABAMA

▶ Tom Bevill Conference Ctr & Hotel // Huntsville  
[uniquevenues.com/BevillConfCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/BevillConfCenter)

### ARIZONA

Parsons Center // Phoenix  
[uniquevenues.com/ParsonsCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/ParsonsCenter)

The Falls Event Center // Gilbert  
[uniquevenues.com/FallsEventCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/FallsEventCenter)

▶ Thunderbird Executive Inn & Conference Ctr // Glendale  
[uniquevenues.com/ThunderbirdExecutiveInn](http://uniquevenues.com/ThunderbirdExecutiveInn)

University of Phoenix, Phoenix-Tempe  
[uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixTempe](http://uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixTempe)

### ARKANSAS

▶ Arkansas 4-H Center // Little Rock  
[uniquevenues.com/arkansas4hcenter](http://uniquevenues.com/arkansas4hcenter)

Arkansas State University // State University  
[uniquevenues.com/ArkansasState](http://uniquevenues.com/ArkansasState)

### CALIFORNIA

▶ AMA San Francisco Conference Center  
[uniquevenues.com/amasanfrancisco](http://uniquevenues.com/amasanfrancisco)

Bently Reserve // San Francisco  
[uniquevenues.com/BentlyReserve](http://uniquevenues.com/BentlyReserve)

California State University - Bakersfield  
[uniquevenues.com/CSUBakersfield](http://uniquevenues.com/CSUBakersfield)

▶ California State Univ Channel Islands // Camarillo  
[uniquevenues.com/calstatechannelislands](http://uniquevenues.com/calstatechannelislands)

▶ California State University, Northridge  
[uniquevenues.com/CalStateNorthridge](http://uniquevenues.com/CalStateNorthridge)

▶ California State Univ, Northridge - Univ Student Union  
[uniquevenues.com/CSUNUSU](http://uniquevenues.com/CSUNUSU)

Chapman University // Orange  
[uniquevenues.com/Chapman](http://uniquevenues.com/Chapman)

▶ Dolce Hayes Mansion // San Jose  
[uniquevenues.com/hayesmansion](http://uniquevenues.com/hayesmansion)

▶ Event Services at U.C. Berkeley  
[uniquevenues.com/UCBerkeleyUnion](http://uniquevenues.com/UCBerkeleyUnion)

▶ Fairplex Hotel & Conference Center // Pomona  
[uniquevenues.com/FairplexConfCtr](http://uniquevenues.com/FairplexConfCtr)

Humboldt State University // Arcata  
[uniquevenues.com/humboldtstate](http://uniquevenues.com/humboldtstate)

▶ Loyola Marymount University // Los Angeles  
[uniquevenues.com/LoyolaMarymount](http://uniquevenues.com/LoyolaMarymount)

▶ Meetings & Events @ Edwards Irvine Spectrum 21 IMAX & RPX // Irvine  
[uniquevenues.com/EdwardsIrvine](http://uniquevenues.com/EdwardsIrvine)



# INDEX

» Meetings & Events @ Edwards Mira Mesa Stadium 18 IMAX & RPX // San Diego  
uniquevenues.com/EdwardsMiraMesa

» Occidental College // Los Angeles  
uniquevenues.com/Occidental

Pali Mountain Retreat // Running Springs  
uniquevenues.com/PaliMountain

Pepperdine University // Malibu  
uniquevenues.com/Pepperdine

» Pickwick Gardens Conference Ctr // Burbank  
uniquevenues.com/Pickwick

» Pomona College // Claremont  
uniquevenues.com/PomonaCollege

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center // San Diego  
uniquevenues.com/FleetScienceCtr

» San Jose State University  
uniquevenues.com/sjsu

» San Ramon Valley Conference Center  
uniquevenues.com/sanramonvalleycc

» Santa Clara University  
uniquevenues.com/SantaClaraUniv

» Sonoma State University // Rohnert Park  
uniquevenues.com/SonomaState

SPiN Los Angeles  
uniquevenues.com/SpinLA

SPiN San Francisco  
uniquevenues.com/SpinSF

» The Quad at CSU San Marcos  
uniquevenues.com/quadcsusanmarcos

UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center  
uniquevenues.com/UCLALakeArrowhead

» University of California, Los Angeles  
uniquevenues.com/ucla

» University of California, Riverside  
uniquevenues.com/UCRiverside

Univ of California, Riverside - Palm Desert Center  
uniquevenues.com/ucrpalmdesert

University of California, Santa Barbara  
uniquevenues.com/UCSB

University of Phoenix, Pasadena  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixPasadena

University of Phoenix, Sacramento  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixSacramento

University of Phoenix, San Diego (Stonecrest)  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixStonecrest

» University of Redlands  
uniquevenues.com/UnivRedlands

» University of San Diego - Hospitality Services  
uniquevenues.com/USD

Univ Student Union, California State Univ,  
Long Beach  
uniquevenues.com/CSULB

» Visit West Hollywood  
uniquevenues.com/VisitWestHollywood

Whittier College  
uniquevenues.com/WhittierCollege

## COLORADO

4 Eagle Ranch // Wolcott  
uniquevenues.com/4Eagle

Bella Vista Estate // Steamboat Springs  
uniquevenues.com/BellaVista

Boettcher Mansion // Golden  
uniquevenues.com/BoettcherMansion

Colorado Christian University // Lakewood  
uniquevenues.com/CCU



» Colorado State University // Fort Collins  
uniquevenues.com/CSU

History Colorado Center // Denver  
uniquevenues.com/ColoradoHistoryMuseum

Howl at the Moon // Denver  
uniquevenues.com/HowlDenver

» Pueblo Community College  
uniquevenues.com/pueblocc

Quaker Ridge Camp & Conference Ctr // Woodland Park  
uniquevenues.com/quakerridge

The Manor House // Littleton  
uniquevenues.com/TheManorHouseCO

University of Colorado Boulder  
uniquevenues.com/CU

» University of Colorado Colorado Springs  
uniquevenues.com/uccs

» University of Denver  
uniquevenues.com/uofdenver

University of Phoenix, Denver (Lone Tree)  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixColorado

## CONNECTICUT

» Southern Connecticut State Univ // New Haven  
uniquevenues.com/SouthernCT

The Amber Room Colonnade // Danbury  
uniquevenues.com/amberroom

» The Bushnell Ctr for the Performing Arts // Hartford  
uniquevenues.com/BushnellCenter

The Riverfront Boathouse // Hartford  
uniquevenues.com/theboathouse

The Stafford Palace Theater // Stafford Springs  
uniquevenues.com/StaffordPalace

Toyota Presents Oakdale Theatre // Wallingford  
uniquevenues.com/OakdaleTheatre

» University of Hartford // West Hartford  
uniquevenues.com/UnivHartford



» Yale University // New Haven  
uniquevenues.com/yale

## DELAWARE

» Chase Center on the Riverfront // Wilmington  
uniquevenues.com/ChaseCenter

Delaware Art Museum // Wilmington  
uniquevenues.com/delawareartmuseum

Goodstay Mansion & Gardens // Wilmington  
uniquevenues.com/UDelWilmington



» Univ of Delaware Conf and Event Services // Newark  
uniquevenues.com/UnivDelawareNewark

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

1331 G Conference Center // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/1331gconferencecntr

» 20 F Street NW Conference Center // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/20fstreetcc

» AMA Washington, DC Executive Conference Center  
uniquevenues.com/AMADC



» American University // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/AmericanUniv


Artist's Proof // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/ArtistsProof



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

 Bobby McKey's Dueling Piano Bar // National Harbor-MD  
uniquevenues.com/bobbymckeys

Credit Union House // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/CreditUnionHouse

District Architecture Center // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/DistrictArchitectureCenter

FHI360 Conference Center // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/AEDConferenceCenter


Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/hillcenter

Hillyer Art Space // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/hillyerartspace

Josephine Butler Parks Center // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/josephinebutlercenter

Kaiser Permanente Center for Total Health // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/KaiserPermanente

Madame Tussauds Washington DC // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/MadameTussaudsDC

 Meetings & Events @ Regal Gallery Place Stadium 14 // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/RegalGalleryPI

National Cathedral School // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/NationalCathedralSchool

 Nationals Park // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/nationalspark

Partnership for Public Service Conference Ctr // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/PartnershipConferenceCenter

President Lincoln's Cottage // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/PresidentLincolnsCottage

The Carriage House // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/CarriageHouse

 The Catholic University of America // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/CUA



 The Loft at 600 F // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/Loftat600F

The National Archives Museum // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/NationalArchives

 The National Press Club // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/NationalPressClub

The Warner Theatre // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/WarnerTheatre

The Whittemore House // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/WhittemoreHouse

University of Phoenix, Washington DC Campus  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixDC


 Venable Conference Center // Washington  
uniquevenues.com/Venable

## FLORIDA

Adam W. Herbert Univ Center, Univ of North Florida // Jacksonville  
uniquevenues.com/univnoflorida


 Florida Gulf Coast University // Fort Myers  
uniquevenues.com/floridagulfcoast

Florida Institute of Technology // Melbourne  
uniquevenues.com/FloridaTech

 Meetings & Events @ Regal South Beach Stadium 18 // Miami  
uniquevenues.com/RegalSoBeach

Royal Caribbean International // Miami  
uniquevenues.com/royalcaribbean

Tallahassee Community College Conference & Events  
uniquevenues.com/TallahasseeCC

 University of Florida Conference Services // Gainesville  
uniquevenues.com/UnivFlorida

University of Miami Conference Housing // Coral Gables  
uniquevenues.com/UMiamiConfHousing

University of Phoenix, Tampa // Temple Terrace  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixTempleTerrace

University of South Florida-St. Petersburg  
uniquevenues.com/USFStPetersburg

## GEORGIA

 AMA Atlanta Conference Center  
uniquevenues.com/amaatlanta

 Atlanta Metropolitan State College  
uniquevenues.com/amsc

Brenau University // Gainesville  
uniquevenues.com/brenau

Conference Center @ GA Piedmont Tech // Clarkston  
uniquevenues.com/PiedmontTech

 Emory University // Atlanta  
uniquevenues.com/EmoryUniv

Forsyth Conference Ctr At Lanier Technical College // Cumming  
uniquevenues.com/LanierTech


 Georgia Institute of Technology // Atlanta  
uniquevenues.com/georgiatech



Georgia International Horse Park // Conyers  
uniquevenues.com/GAHorsePark

 Georgia Southern University // Statesboro  
uniquevenues.com/georgiasouthern

 Meetings & Events @ Regal Atlantic Station Stadium 16 IMAX & RPX // Atlanta  
uniquevenues.com/RegalAtlanticStation

 Meetings & Events @ Regal Perimeter Pointe Stadium 10 // Atlanta  
uniquevenues.com/RegalPerimeter

Newton Conference Center // Covington  
uniquevenues.com/NewtonConfCtr


 Riverside EpiCenter // Austell  
uniquevenues.com/RiversideEpiCenter

Terminus 330 // Atlanta  
uniquevenues.com/terminus330

The Armstrong Center // Savannah  
uniquevenues.com/armstrongcenter

 The Dennard Conference Center // Atlanta  
uniquevenues.com/ClevelandDennardCenter



 University of Georgia Hotel and Conference Ctr // Athens  
uniquevenues.com/ugcce

University of Phoenix, Atlanta // Sandy Springs  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixAtlanta

## IDAHO

North Idaho College // Coeur d'Alene  
uniquevenues.com/nic

University of Idaho - Univ Support Services // Moscow  
uniquevenues.com/UnivIdaho



# INDEX

## ILLINOIS

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum  
// Springfield  
[uniquevenues.com/LincolnLibrary](http://uniquevenues.com/LincolnLibrary)

American Dental Association // Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/AmericanDentalAssoc](http://uniquevenues.com/AmericanDentalAssoc)

Arrowhead Golf Club // Wheaton  
[uniquevenues.com/ArrowheadGolfClub](http://uniquevenues.com/ArrowheadGolfClub)



Chicago Botanic Garden // Glencoe  
[uniquevenues.com/ChicagoBotanicGarden](http://uniquevenues.com/ChicagoBotanicGarden)

Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors  
Bureau // Lansing  
[uniquevenues.com/chicagosouthland](http://uniquevenues.com/chicagosouthland)

Chicago's North Shore Convention and  
Visitor's Bureau // Skokie  
[uniquevenues.com/ChicagoNorthShoreCVB](http://uniquevenues.com/ChicagoNorthShoreCVB)

Conference Chicago at University Center  
[uniquevenues.com/ConferenceChicago](http://uniquevenues.com/ConferenceChicago)

Elgin Community College  
[uniquevenues.com/elgincc](http://uniquevenues.com/elgincc)

Esplanade Lakes at DoubleTree Suites by Hilton  
Hotel & Conference Ctr // Downers Grove  
[uniquevenues.com/doubletreec](http://uniquevenues.com/doubletreec)

Illinois State University // Normal  
[uniquevenues.com/IllinoisState](http://uniquevenues.com/IllinoisState)

Illinois Wesleyan University // Bloomington  
[uniquevenues.com/IllinoisWesleyan](http://uniquevenues.com/IllinoisWesleyan)

Judson University // Elgin  
[uniquevenues.com/JudsonUniversity](http://uniquevenues.com/JudsonUniversity)



Lake Williamson Christian Center // Carlinville  
[uniquevenues.com/LakeWilliamsonCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/LakeWilliamsonCenter)

Lewis University // Romeoville  
[uniquevenues.com/LewisUniv](http://uniquevenues.com/LewisUniv)

Loyola University Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/loyolachicago](http://uniquevenues.com/loyolachicago)

Loyola University Chicago Retreat & Ecology  
Campus // Woodstock  
[uniquevenues.com/LUCRetreatCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/LUCRetreatCenter)

McCook Athletic & Exposition Center  
[uniquevenues.com/McCookCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/McCookCenter)

McHenry County College // Crystal Lake  
[uniquevenues.com/McHenryCC](http://uniquevenues.com/McHenryCC)

Meetings & Events @ Regal Webster Place  
11 // Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/RegalWebster](http://uniquevenues.com/RegalWebster)

Museum of Science and Industry // Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/MSIChicago](http://uniquevenues.com/MSIChicago)



Navy Pier Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/NavyPier](http://uniquevenues.com/NavyPier)

North Central College // Naperville  
[uniquevenues.com/NCCollege](http://uniquevenues.com/NCCollege)

North Shore Conference Ctr at Double Tree by  
Hilton Chicago No Shore // Skokie  
[uniquevenues.com/NorthShoreCC](http://uniquevenues.com/NorthShoreCC)

Northern Illinois Univ Conference Centers // Naperville  
[uniquevenues.com/NIUConferenceCenters](http://uniquevenues.com/NIUConferenceCenters)

Office Evolution // Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/OfficeEvolution](http://uniquevenues.com/OfficeEvolution)

OFFSITE Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/OffsiteChicago](http://uniquevenues.com/OffsiteChicago)

Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
[uniquevenues.com/siuc](http://uniquevenues.com/siuc)

SPiN Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/SpinChicago](http://uniquevenues.com/SpinChicago)

St. John's Catholic Newman Center // Champaign  
[uniquevenues.com/StJohnsNewmanCtr](http://uniquevenues.com/StJohnsNewmanCtr)

The Accelerated Center // Northbrook  
[uniquevenues.com/acceleratedcenter](http://uniquevenues.com/acceleratedcenter)

The Field Museum // Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/FieldMuseum](http://uniquevenues.com/FieldMuseum)

The Student Life Ctr at East-West University  
// Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/SLC@EWU](http://uniquevenues.com/SLC@EWU)

The University of Chicago  
[uniquevenues.com/UChicago](http://uniquevenues.com/UChicago)

University Center of Lake County // Grayslake  
[uniquevenues.com/UCLC](http://uniquevenues.com/UCLC)

University of Illinois at Chicago Event Spaces  
[uniquevenues.com/UICEvents](http://uniquevenues.com/UICEvents)

University of Illinois Conferences and  
Special Events // Champaign  
[uniquevenues.com/uillinoisconferences](http://uniquevenues.com/uillinoisconferences)

Wheaton College  
[uniquevenues.com/wheaton](http://uniquevenues.com/wheaton)

## INDIANA

Anderson University  
[uniquevenues.com/Anderson](http://uniquevenues.com/Anderson)

Ball State University // Muncie  
[uniquevenues.com/BallState](http://uniquevenues.com/BallState)

Bethel College // Mishawaka  
[uniquevenues.com/BethelCollege](http://uniquevenues.com/BethelCollege)

Bloomington Monroe County Convention Center  
[uniquevenues.com/bloomingtonmonroecc](http://uniquevenues.com/bloomingtonmonroecc)

Earlham College - Runyan Center // Richmond  
[uniquevenues.com/Earlham](http://uniquevenues.com/Earlham)

Indiana University - Purdue University -  
Indianapolis  
[uniquevenues.com/IUPUI](http://uniquevenues.com/IUPUI)

Palais Royale at Morris Performing Arts Center  
// South Bend  
[uniquevenues.com/PalaisRoyale2](http://uniquevenues.com/PalaisRoyale2)

Purdue University // West Lafayette  
[uniquevenues.com/Purdue](http://uniquevenues.com/Purdue)

Taylor University // Upland  
[uniquevenues.com/TaylorU](http://uniquevenues.com/TaylorU)

Tilson Conference Center // Greenwood  
[uniquevenues.com/TilsonConfCtr](http://uniquevenues.com/TilsonConfCtr)

University of Notre Dame  
[uniquevenues.com/notredameconfcenter](http://uniquevenues.com/notredameconfcenter)

Valparaiso University  
[uniquevenues.com/Valparaiso](http://uniquevenues.com/Valparaiso)

## IOWA

Iowa State University // Ames  
[uniquevenues.com/iowaState](http://uniquevenues.com/iowaState)

Simpson College - Conferences // Indianola  
[uniquevenues.com/SimpsonCollege](http://uniquevenues.com/SimpsonCollege)

Sunstream Retreat Center // Ogden  
[uniquevenues.com/Sunstream](http://uniquevenues.com/Sunstream)

## KENTUCKY

Buffalo Trace Distillery // Frankfort  
[uniquevenues.com/BuffaloTrace](http://uniquevenues.com/BuffaloTrace)

CityPlace // LaGrange  
[uniquevenues.com/CityPlace](http://uniquevenues.com/CityPlace)

Northern Kentucky University // Highland  
Heights  
[uniquevenues.com/NKU](http://uniquevenues.com/NKU)



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

» The Galt House // Louisville  
uniquevenues.com/GaltHouse

## LOUISIANA

» Tulane University // New Orleans  
uniquevenues.com/Tulane

## MAINE

» Bates College // Lewiston  
uniquevenues.com/BatesCollege

» Colby College // Waterville  
uniquevenues.com/ColbyCollege

Unity College  
uniquevenues.com/UnityCollege

University of Maine // Orono  
uniquevenues.com/UnivMaine

## MARYLAND

Anne Arundel Community College // Arnold  
uniquevenues.com/AnneArundel

Billingsley Manor // Upper Marlboro  
uniquevenues.com/Billingsley

Brookside Gardens // Wheaton  
uniquevenues.com/BrooksideGardens

Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum // St. Michaels  
uniquevenues.com/ChesapeakeBayMaritime

» Coppin State University // Baltimore  
uniquevenues.com/Coppin

» Elegant Settings of Maryland-National  
Capital Park and Planning Commission  
uniquevenues.com/elegantsettings

Frostburg State University  
uniquevenues.com/Frostburg

Glenview Mansion & F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre  
// Rockville  
uniquevenues.com/GlenviewMansion

» Harbor Tower Events at Legg Mason Tower //  
Baltimore  
uniquevenues.com/LeggMasonTower

Howl at the Moon // Baltimore  
uniquevenues.com/HowlattheMoonMD

» Johns Hopkins University Conf Services //  
Baltimore  
uniquevenues.com/johnshopkins

» Loyola University Maryland // Baltimore  
uniquevenues.com/loyolamaryland

» National 4-H Conference Center // Chevy Chase  
uniquevenues.com/National4-H

Newton White Mansion // Mitchellville  
uniquevenues.com/NewtonWhite

Notre Dame of Maryland University // Baltimore  
uniquevenues.com/NotreDame

Oxon Hill Manor  
uniquevenues.com/OxonHill

Prince George's Ballroom // Landover  
uniquevenues.com/PrinceGeorge

» Redskins Special Events at FedExField //  
Landover  
uniquevenues.com/FedExField

Rockwood Manor // Potomac  
uniquevenues.com/RockwoodManor

Snow Hill Manor // Laurel  
uniquevenues.com/SnowHill

The Fillmore Silver Spring // Silver Spring  
uniquevenues.com/FillmoreSilverSpring

» The Grand // Baltimore  
uniquevenues.com/GrandHistoricVenue

» Universities at Shady Grove Conference Ctr  
// Rockville  
uniquevenues.com/shadygrove



» University of Maryland, College Park  
uniquevenues.com/umcollegepark

## MASSACHUSETTS

» Anna Maria College // Paxton  
uniquevenues.com/AnnaMariaCollege

» Babson Executive Conference Center  
uniquevenues.com/Babson

Boston College Connors Center // Dover  
uniquevenues.com/BCConnorsCenter



» Boston University  
uniquevenues.com/BostonUniv

» Curry College // Milton  
uniquevenues.com/CurryCollege

Earthdance // Plainfield  
uniquevenues.com/Earthdance

» Fitchburg State College  
uniquevenues.com/Fitchburg



» Hampshire College | Event Services &  
Summer Programs // Amherst  
uniquevenues.com/HampshireCollege

» Hotel UMass // Amherst  
uniquevenues.com/UMassAmherst

» Meetings & Events @ Regal Fenway  
Stadium 13 & RPX // Boston  
uniquevenues.com/RegalFenway

» Metro Meeting Centers - Boston  
uniquevenues.com/MetroMeetingBoston

» Misselwood Events at Endicott College //  
Beverly  
uniquevenues.com/Endicott

» Mount Holyoke College and Willits-Hallowell  
Conference Ctr // South Hadley  
uniquevenues.com/mountholyoke

» Nichols College // Dudley  
uniquevenues.com/NicholsCollege

Northern Essex Community College // Haverhill  
uniquevenues.com/NECC

Simmons College // Boston  
uniquevenues.com/SimmonsCollege

Spirit Fire Retreat Center // Leyden  
uniquevenues.com/SpiritFire

» Springfield College  
uniquevenues.com/springfield

» Stonehill College Conference & Event  
Services // Easton  
uniquevenues.com/Stonehill

» The Conference Center at Bentley // Waltham  
uniquevenues.com/ConferenceCtrBentley

» The Conference Center at Waltham Woods  
uniquevenues.com/walthamwoods

The Joseph B. Martin Conference Ctr at Harvard  
Medical School // Boston  
uniquevenues.com/harvardmedicalconferencecenter

» Tufts University // Medford  
uniquevenues.com/Tufts

» University of Massachusetts Dartmouth  
uniquevenues.com/UMassDartmouth

» University of Massachusetts Lowell  
uniquevenues.com/UMassLowell

UTEC Events & Catering // Lowell  
uniquevenues.com/UTEC



# INDEX

Wylie Inn and Conference Ctr at Endicott College  
// Beverly  
[uniquevenues.com/Wylielnn](http://uniquevenues.com/Wylielnn)

## MICHIGAN

Calvin College // Grand Rapids  
[uniquevenues.com/calvincollege](http://uniquevenues.com/calvincollege)

▶ Central Michigan University // Mount Pleasant  
[uniquevenues.com/CMU](http://uniquevenues.com/CMU)

Colombiere Conference & Retreat Center // Clarkston  
[uniquevenues.com/ColombiereCtr](http://uniquevenues.com/ColombiereCtr)

Faholo // Grass Lake  
[uniquevenues.com/Faholo](http://uniquevenues.com/Faholo)

GENEVA Camp & Retreat Center // Holland  
[uniquevenues.com/Genevacamp](http://uniquevenues.com/Genevacamp)

▶ Grand Valley State University // Allendale  
[uniquevenues.com/grandvalleystate](http://uniquevenues.com/grandvalleystate)

Gull Lake Ministries Conference Ctr // Hickory Corners  
[uniquevenues.com/gulllake](http://uniquevenues.com/gulllake)

▶ Hope College // Holland  
[uniquevenues.com/HopeCollege](http://uniquevenues.com/HopeCollege)

Lost Valley Retreat Center // Gaylord  
[uniquevenues.com/LVRetreat](http://uniquevenues.com/LVRetreat)

▶ Michigan State University // East Lansing  
[uniquevenues.com/MichiganState](http://uniquevenues.com/MichiganState)

Oakland University - Oakland Center // Rochester  
[uniquevenues.com/OaklandCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/OaklandCenter)

▶ University of Michigan // Ann Arbor  
[uniquevenues.com/UnivMichigan](http://uniquevenues.com/UnivMichigan)

VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College // Livonia  
[uniquevenues.com/vistatechcenter](http://uniquevenues.com/vistatechcenter)

Washtenaw Community College // Ann Arbor  
[uniquevenues.com/WCC](http://uniquevenues.com/WCC)

▶ Ypsilanti Area Convention & Visitors Bureau  
[uniquevenues.com/YpsilantiCVB](http://uniquevenues.com/YpsilantiCVB)

## MINNESOTA

Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau // Austin  
[uniquevenues.com/austincvb](http://uniquevenues.com/austincvb)



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

## MEETING YOUR NEEDS

*with first-class affordable facilities and services ...*

**Contact:** Michelle Wu,  
Director of Conference  
Services, (309) 556-3591 or  
[www.iwu.edu/conferences](http://www.iwu.edu/conferences)

- **Location** — Served by major airlines, Amtrak and three Interstates
- **Space** — Meetings for up to 600 with 64 technology-rich meeting rooms
- **Amenities** — Accommodations for 1,100, variety of dining options, plus fitness, sports and recreation



Flexible venue perfect for conferences, weddings, parties and more!



**NOTRE DAME OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY** is situated on a beautiful and peaceful 58-acre campus in North Baltimore—a perfect location for conferences, meetings, or weddings. With our finely landscaped grounds, walking paths, state-of-the-art training rooms, lovely Marikle Chapel of the Annunciation, and exceptional in-house caterer, Notre Dame can make your event a memorable one.

**Contact: 410-532-5782, [events@ndm.edu](mailto:events@ndm.edu)  
or [ndm.edu/conferenceservices](http://ndm.edu/conferenceservices)**

Notre Dame of Maryland University | 4701 North Charles Street | Baltimore, Maryland, 21210



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

▶ Earle Brown Heritage Center // Brooklyn Center  
uniquevenues.com/EarleBrownCenter

Macalester College // Saint Paul  
uniquevenues.com/Macalester



▶ McNamara Alumni Center, Univ of Minnesota // Minneapolis  
uniquevenues.com/mcnamara

Oak Ridge Hotel & Conference Center // Chaska  
uniquevenues.com/OakRidge

Shire in the Woods // McGrath  
uniquevenues.com/ShireWoods

St. Catherine University // St. Paul  
uniquevenues.com/StCatherineUniv

St. Olaf College // Northfield  
uniquevenues.com/stolaf

▶ Univ of Minnesota Conference and Event Services // Minneapolis  
uniquevenues.com/UnivMinnesota

▶ Univ of St. Thomas, Minneapolis & St. Paul // Minneapolis  
uniquevenues.com/StThomasMinn

Winona State University // Winona  
uniquevenues.com/WSU

## MISSOURI

Charles F. Knight Executive Education & Conf Ctr // St. Louis  
uniquevenues.com/KnightCenter

Eagle Rock Retreat Center  
uniquevenues.com/EagleRockRetreatCtr

Evangel University // Springfield  
uniquevenues.com/EvangelUniv

Howl at the Moon St. Louis  
uniquevenues.com/HowlStLouis

Missouri State University // Springfield  
uniquevenues.com/MissouriState

University of Central Missouri // Warrensburg  
uniquevenues.com/UCMO

Washington Univ Medical Center Eric P Newman Education Ctr // St. Louis  
uniquevenues.com/EPNEC

## MONTANA

Rainbow Ranch Lodge // Gallatin Gateway  
uniquevenues.com/rainbowranch

Spruce Lodge // Lakeside  
uniquevenues.com/SpruceLodge

▶ University of Montana // Missoula  
uniquevenues.com/universityofmontana

## NEBRASKA

▶ Lied Lodge & Conference Ctr // Nebraska City  
uniquevenues.com/liedlodge

▶ University of Nebraska // Lincoln  
uniquevenues.com/UnivNebraska

## NEVADA

MEET Las Vegas  
uniquevenues.com/MeetLasVegas

▶ Springs Preserve // Las Vegas  
uniquevenues.com/SpringsPreserve

Temple Sinai Event Center // Las Vegas  
uniquevenues.com/TempleSinai



▶ University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
uniquevenues.com/UNLV

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Colby-Sawyer College // New London  
uniquevenues.com/ColbySawyerCollege

▶ Keene State College  
uniquevenues.com/KeeneState

▶ Saint Anselm College // Manchester  
uniquevenues.com/saintanselmcollege

▶ Southern New Hampshire Univ // Manchester  
uniquevenues.com/SNHU



▶ Univ of New Hampshire Conferences and Catering // Durham  
uniquevenues.com/UnivNewHampshire

## NEW JERSEY

▶ Bloomfield College  
uniquevenues.com/BloomfieldCollege

College of Saint Elizabeth // Morristown  
uniquevenues.com/CollegeStElizabeth

▶ Conference & Event Services at Rowan Univ // Glassboro  
uniquevenues.com/Rowan

# venue

▶ Conference Center at RWJ Hamilton // Mercerville  
uniquevenues.com/RWJHamilton

▶ Drew University // Madison  
uniquevenues.com/DrewUniv

▶ Georgian Court University // Lakewood  
uniquevenues.com/GeorgianCourt

Grounds For Sculpture // Hamilton  
uniquevenues.com/GroundsforSculpture

Ibis Venue Center // Hamilton  
uniquevenues.com/Ibis

▶ iPlay America's Event Center // Freehold  
uniquevenues.com/iplay

Kean Univ Conference & Event Services // Union  
uniquevenues.com/keanuniversity

Luciano Conference Ctr at Cumberland County College // Vineland  
uniquevenues.com/CumberlandCC

Raritan Valley Community College // Somerville  
uniquevenues.com/RaritanValleyCC

Rutgers University Inn & Conference Ctr // New Brunswick  
uniquevenues.com/RutgersCSCC



▶ Saint Peter's University // Jersey City  
uniquevenues.com/SaintPetersUniv

Seton Hall University School of Law // Newark  
uniquevenues.com/setonhall

▶ The College of New Jersey // Ewing  
uniquevenues.com/collegeofnewjersey

▶ The Conference Center at Montclair State University  
uniquevenues.com/MontclairStateConfCtr

## NEW MEXICO

National Museum of Nuclear Science & History // Albuquerque  
uniquevenues.com/NuclearMuseum

St. John's College // Santa Fe  
uniquevenues.com/StJohnsNM

Truchas Peaks Place  
uniquevenues.com/TruchasPeaksPlace

▶ University of New Mexico // Albuquerque  
uniquevenues.com/UNM



# INDEX

## NEW YORK

➤ 19th Avenue Event & Exhibition Center // Astoria  
uniquevenues.com/19thAveStage

➤ 3 West Club // New York  
uniquevenues.com/3West

➤ 353 West NYC // New York  
uniquevenues.com/353west

➤ Adelphi University // Garden City  
uniquevenues.com/adelphi

➤ AMA New York Conference Center  
uniquevenues.com/amanewyork

Carnegie Hall // New York  
uniquevenues.com/CarnegieHall

Center for Automotive Education & Training // Queens  
uniquevenues.com/AutoEdCenter

➤ Clarkson University // Potsdam  
uniquevenues.com/ClarksonUniv

➤ Convene at 101 Park Ave // New York  
uniquevenues.com/Conveneat101

➤ Convene at 32 Old Slip // New York  
uniquevenues.com/conveneat32

Ethical Culture Fieldston School // New York  
uniquevenues.com/FieldstonSchool

➤ Glen Cove Mansion Hotel and Conference Center  
uniquevenues.com/GlenCove

Hofstra University // Hempstead  
uniquevenues.com/hofstra

Hornblower Cruises & Events // New York  
uniquevenues.com/HornblowerNY

➤ Iona College // New Rochelle  
uniquevenues.com/ionacollege

Ithaca College  
uniquevenues.com/Ithaca

Keuka College  
uniquevenues.com/Keuka

LaGuardia Community College // Long Island City  
uniquevenues.com/LaGuardiaCC

➤ Manhattan College // Riverdale  
uniquevenues.com/ManhattanCollege

➤ Meetings & Events @ Regal Battery Park Stadium 11 // New York  
uniquevenues.com/RegalBatteryPark



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

**BALL STATE UNIVERSITY** EDUCATION REDEFINED



Karen Adkins | 765.285.1396 | kadkins@bsu.edu

Ball State University is the ideal site for your next conference, camp, workshop, or meeting. Our fine facilities, advanced technology, comprehensive services, convenient location, and dynamic campus will make your event a success.

# DON'T

THINK YOU WOWED AT YOUR LAST EVENT? THEN

# STOP

DOING THE SAME OLD PARTY THING THAT LEAVES GUESTS BORED AND UNDERWHELMED, AND START

# BELIEVIN'

IN BOBBY MCKEY'S TO GIVE YOU THE EVENT YOU WERE DESTINED TO HAVE.



NATIONAL HARBOR

**BOBBY McKEY's**  
DUELING PIANO BAR

**events@bobbymckkeys.com** 301.602.8852  
200 steps from the Gaylord at National Harbor / D.C.



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

» Meetings & Events @ Regal E-Walk Stadium  
13 & RPX // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/RegalEWalkStadium](http://uniquevenues.com/RegalEWalkStadium)

» Meetings & Events @ Regal Union Square  
Stadium 14 // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/RegalUnionSquare](http://uniquevenues.com/RegalUnionSquare)

New York Historical Society // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/nyhistoricalsociety](http://uniquevenues.com/nyhistoricalsociety)

Nyack College  
[uniquevenues.com/Nyack](http://uniquevenues.com/Nyack)

Nyack College in Manhattan  
[uniquevenues.com/Nyack2NYC](http://uniquevenues.com/Nyack2NYC)

» NYIT Auditorium on Broadway // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/NYITAuditorium](http://uniquevenues.com/NYITAuditorium)

NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development  
[uniquevenues.com/NYUWasserman](http://uniquevenues.com/NYUWasserman)

OFFSITE New York  
[uniquevenues.com/offsite](http://uniquevenues.com/offsite)

» Pace Univ Conferences and Event Planning  
// New York  
[uniquevenues.com/PaceUniv](http://uniquevenues.com/PaceUniv)

» Paul Smith's College  
[uniquevenues.com/PaulSmithsCollege](http://uniquevenues.com/PaulSmithsCollege)

Rubin Museum of Art (RMA) // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/RubinMuseum](http://uniquevenues.com/RubinMuseum)



» Silver Bay YMCA - Conf and Family  
Retreat Ctr on Lake George  
[uniquevenues.com/SilverBayYMCA](http://uniquevenues.com/SilverBayYMCA)

Spillian A Place to Revel // Fleischmanns  
[uniquevenues.com/Spillian](http://uniquevenues.com/Spillian)



SPiN New York  
[uniquevenues.com/SpinNY](http://uniquevenues.com/SpinNY)

St. John's University - Manhattan  
[uniquevenues.com/stjohnsmanhattan](http://uniquevenues.com/stjohnsmanhattan)

» St. John's University - Queens  
[uniquevenues.com/StJohnsQueens](http://uniquevenues.com/StJohnsQueens)

St. John's University - Staten Island  
[uniquevenues.com/StJohnsStatenIsland](http://uniquevenues.com/StJohnsStatenIsland)

St. John's University, Oakdale  
[uniquevenues.com/StJohnsOakdale](http://uniquevenues.com/StJohnsOakdale)

» Stony Brook University  
[uniquevenues.com/StonyBrookUniv](http://uniquevenues.com/StonyBrookUniv)

SUNY Maritime College // Bronx  
[uniquevenues.com/SUNYMaritime](http://uniquevenues.com/SUNYMaritime)

» The College at Brockport  
[uniquevenues.com/brockport](http://uniquevenues.com/brockport)

The Cooper Union // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/CooperUnion](http://uniquevenues.com/CooperUnion)

» The Farm Soho // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/farmsoho](http://uniquevenues.com/farmsoho)

The Graduate Center // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/GraduateCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/GraduateCenter)

The Paley Center For Media // New York  
[uniquevenues.com/PaleyCenter](http://uniquevenues.com/PaleyCenter)

Transfiguration Monastery // South Windsor  
[uniquevenues.com/TransfigurationMonastery](http://uniquevenues.com/TransfigurationMonastery)

» Utica College  
[uniquevenues.com/utica](http://uniquevenues.com/utica)

## NORTH CAROLINA

Art of Living Retreat Center // Boone  
[uniquevenues.com/artofliving](http://uniquevenues.com/artofliving)

Lenoir-Rhyne University // Hickory  
[uniquevenues.com/LenoirRhyne](http://uniquevenues.com/LenoirRhyne)

Loray Mill Event Hall // Gastonia  
[uniquevenues.com/loraymill](http://uniquevenues.com/loraymill)

» Lutheridge Camp and Conference Ctr // Arden  
[uniquevenues.com/Lutheridge](http://uniquevenues.com/Lutheridge)

Lutherock // Newland  
[uniquevenues.com/Lutherock](http://uniquevenues.com/Lutherock)

» Queens University // Charlotte  
[uniquevenues.com/QueensUnivNC](http://uniquevenues.com/QueensUnivNC)

» The Graylyn Estate // Winston-Salem  
[uniquevenues.com/Graylyn](http://uniquevenues.com/Graylyn)

University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
[uniquevenues.com/unccharlotte](http://uniquevenues.com/unccharlotte)

University of North Carolina at Wilmington  
[uniquevenues.com/UNCWilmington](http://uniquevenues.com/UNCWilmington)

» Wake Forest University // Winston-Salem  
[uniquevenues.com/WakeForest](http://uniquevenues.com/WakeForest)

» Western Carolina University // Cullowhee  
[uniquevenues.com/WCU](http://uniquevenues.com/WCU)

## OHIO



Arden Shisler Conference Center // Wooster  
[uniquevenues.com/ShislerConfCtr](http://uniquevenues.com/ShislerConfCtr)

# venue

» Bowling Green State University  
[uniquevenues.com/BowlingGreen](http://uniquevenues.com/BowlingGreen)

CMBA Conference Center // Cleveland  
[uniquevenues.com/CMBACC](http://uniquevenues.com/CMBACC)

» Columbus State Conference Center  
[uniquevenues.com/ColumbusStateConfCtr](http://uniquevenues.com/ColumbusStateConfCtr)

Denison University // Granville  
[uniquevenues.com/denison](http://uniquevenues.com/denison)

» Kenyon College // Gambier  
[uniquevenues.com/KenyonCollege](http://uniquevenues.com/KenyonCollege)

» Miami Univ Conference and Event Services  
// Oxford  
[uniquevenues.com/MUOhio](http://uniquevenues.com/MUOhio)

» Mount Vernon Nazarene University  
[uniquevenues.com/MVNU](http://uniquevenues.com/MVNU)

» Ohio University // Athens  
[uniquevenues.com/OhioUniv](http://uniquevenues.com/OhioUniv)

» The Marcum Hotel & Conference Ctr // Oxford  
[uniquevenues.com/TheMarcum](http://uniquevenues.com/TheMarcum)

» Tinkham Veale University Center // Cleveland  
[uniquevenues.com/tinkhamvealecenter](http://uniquevenues.com/tinkhamvealecenter)

Victory Park Ohio // North Ridgeville  
[uniquevenues.com/victoryparkohio](http://uniquevenues.com/victoryparkohio)

## OKLAHOMA

» Oral Roberts University // Tulsa  
[uniquevenues.com/ORU](http://uniquevenues.com/ORU)

» University of Central Oklahoma // Edmond  
[uniquevenues.com/UnivCentralOk](http://uniquevenues.com/UnivCentralOk)

## OREGON

Lewis & Clark // Portland  
[uniquevenues.com/lewisandclark](http://uniquevenues.com/lewisandclark)

» Meetings & Events @ Regal Lloyd Center 10  
& IMAX // Portland  
[uniquevenues.com/RegalLloyd](http://uniquevenues.com/RegalLloyd)

Oregon State University Conference Ctr // Corvallis  
[uniquevenues.com/OregonState](http://uniquevenues.com/OregonState)

Salem Convention Center  
[uniquevenues.com/salemconferencecenter](http://uniquevenues.com/salemconferencecenter)

» University of Oregon // Eugene  
[uniquevenues.com/univoregon](http://uniquevenues.com/univoregon)



# INDEX

## PENNSYLVANIA

Albright College Conference & Event Services // Reading  
uniquevenues.com/AlbrightCollege

Allegheny College // Meadville/Erie  
uniquevenues.com/Allegheny

California University of Pennsylvania  
uniquevenues.com/CalU

Carnegie Mellon University // Pittsburgh  
uniquevenues.com/CarnegieMellon

➤ Conference Center at Penn State Great Valley // Malvern  
uniquevenues.com/PSUGreatValley

Drexel University // Philadelphia  
uniquevenues.com/Drexel

➤ Eastern University Conferences // St. Davids  
uniquevenues.com/EasternUniv

Elizabethtown College  
uniquevenues.com/ElizabethtownCollege

➤ Gettysburg College  
uniquevenues.com/Gettysburg

➤ Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
uniquevenues.com/IUP

➤ Lehigh University // Bethlehem  
uniquevenues.com/Lehigh

➤ Marywood University // Scranton  
uniquevenues.com/Marywood

➤ Meetings & Events @ Regal King of Prussia Stadium 16 IMAX & uniquevenues.com/RegalKingPrussia

Messiah College // Mechanicsburg  
uniquevenues.com/MessiahCollege

Miller Symphony Hall // Allentown  
uniquevenues.com/MillerSymphonyHall

➤ Millersville University of Pennsylvania  
uniquevenues.com/Millersville

Muhlenberg College // Allentown  
uniquevenues.com/muhlenbergcollege

➤ National Museum of American Jewish History // Philadelphia  
uniquevenues.com/nmajh

Nittany Lion Inn // State College  
uniquevenues.com/NittanyLionInn



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

THE BANFF CENTRE | INSPIRING CREATIVITY

## BRILLIANCE HAPPENS HERE

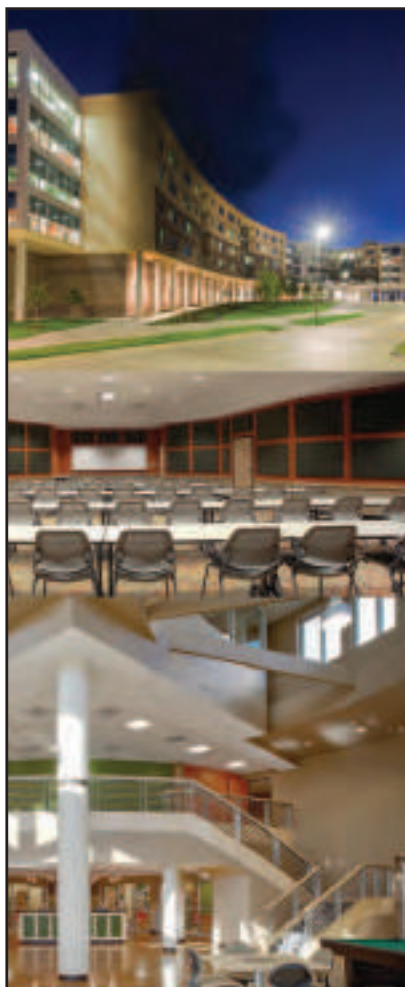
Brilliance happens when the venue and programming inspires creativity to thrive. The Banff Centre offers unique conference facilities and innovative meeting architecture support designed to achieve results.

### Contact us today!

1.877.760.4595  
conferences@banffcentre.ca  
banffcentre.ca/conferences



The Banff Centre  
inspiring creativity



## Rest easy.

UT Dallas' Residential Camp & Conference Services is a one-stop shop for your summer program needs.

### We offer:

- Residence halls with private bedrooms and classroom space.
- Comprehensive meal plans.
- Meeting facilities throughout campus.
- Housing for corporate summer interns.

Visit our website to find out more.



utdallas.edu/conference



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts // Philadelphia  
uniquevenues.com/pafa

Philadelphia Museum of Art  
uniquevenues.com/PhiladelphiaMuseumArt

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens // Pittsburgh  
uniquevenues.com/PhippsConservatory

PNC Park // Pittsburgh  
uniquevenues.com/pncpark

▶ Slippery Rock University  
uniquevenues.com/SlipperyRockUniv

Spruce Lake Retreat // Canadensis  
uniquevenues.com/SpruceLakeRetreat

▶ Temple University // Philadelphia  
uniquevenues.com/TempleUniv

The Barnes Foundation // Philadelphia  
uniquevenues.com/BarnesFoundation

▶ The Franklin Institute // Philadelphia  
uniquevenues.com/FranklinInst

▶ The Penn Stater Conference Ctr Hotel // University Park  
uniquevenues.com/PennStater

University of Phoenix, Philadelphia  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixCenterCity

▶ University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown  
uniquevenues.com/upj

▶ University of Scranton  
uniquevenues.com/universityscranton

▶ Villanova University Conference Ctr // Radnor  
uniquevenues.com/VillanovaConfCenter

▶ Villanova University Conferences  
uniquevenues.com/VillanovaUniv

Washington & Jefferson College  
uniquevenues.com/WashingtonJefferson

▶ West Chester University of Pennsylvania  
uniquevenues.com/westchester

## RHODE ISLAND

▶ Bryant University // Smithfield  
uniquevenues.com/Bryant

Rhode Island School Of Design // Providence  
uniquevenues.com/RISD

▶ Salve Regina University // Newport  
uniquevenues.com/SalveRegina

## SOUTH CAROLINA

▶ Furman University Summer Programs // Greenville  
uniquevenues.com/furman

Tanglewood Plantation // Lynchburg  
uniquevenues.com/TanglewoodPlantation

▶ University of South Carolina, Conference and Event Services // Columbia  
uniquevenues.com/UnivSoCarolina

▶ Younts Conference Center at Furman University // Greenville  
uniquevenues.com/Younts

## TENNESSEE

East Tennessee State University // Johnson City  
uniquevenues.com/ETSU

Fogelman Executive Conference Center // Memphis  
uniquevenues.com/Fogelman

Maryville College  
uniquevenues.com/Maryville

▶ Meetings & Events @ Regal Hollywood Stadium 27 & RPX // Nashville  
uniquevenues.com/RegalHollywood

Scarritt-Bennett Center // Nashville  
uniquevenues.com/ScarrittBennett

▶ The Millennium Conference Centre // Johnson City  
uniquevenues.com/millenniumconferencecentre

▶ The University of Memphis  
uniquevenues.com/UnivMemphis

▶ The University of Tennessee // Knoxville  
uniquevenues.com/UnivTennessee

▶ Vanderbilt University // Nashville  
uniquevenues.com/Vanderbilt

## TEXAS

▶ Cooper Hotel, Conference Center // Dallas  
uniquevenues.com/cooperhotel

Howl at the Moon - Houston  
uniquevenues.com/howlatthemoonhouston

# venue

▶ Meetings & Events @ Edwards Houston Marq'e Stadium 23 & IMAX  
uniquevenues.com/EdwardsHouston

Revention Music Center // Houston  
uniquevenues.com/RMC

San Antonio Meeting Center  
uniquevenues.com/SanAntonioMeetingCenter

▶ Texas Tech University // Lubbock  
uniquevenues.com/TexasTech

The University of Texas at Dallas // Richardson  
uniquevenues.com/univtexasdallas

▶ Trinity University // San Antonio  
uniquevenues.com/trinityuniversity

▶ University of Houston  
uniquevenues.com/UnivHoustonConfServ

University of Phoenix, Dallas  
uniquevenues.com/UPhoenixDallas

## UTAH

▶ Dixie Center at St. George  
uniquevenues.com/dixiecenter

▶ Miller Conference Ctr at Salt Lake Community College // Sandy  
uniquevenues.com/MillerConfCenter

The Tower at Rice-Eccles // Salt Lake City  
uniquevenues.com/TowerRiceEccles

University Inn & Conference Center // Logan  
uniquevenues.com/utahstate

▶ University of Utah // Salt Lake City  
uniquevenues.com/UnivUtah

Weber State University // Ogden  
uniquevenues.com/WeberState

## VERMONT

▶ Champlain College // Burlington  
uniquevenues.com/champlain

Lyndon State College // Lyndonville  
uniquevenues.com/LyndonState

▶ The Mountaintop Inn & Resort // Chittenden  
uniquevenues.com/mountaintoppinn

▶ The University of Vermont // Burlington  
uniquevenues.com/UVM



# INDEX

## VIRGINIA

▶ AMA's Washington Area Executive Conference  
Ctr at Arlington VA [uniquevenues.com/amaarlington](http://uniquevenues.com/amaarlington)

▶ Carter Hall Conference Center // Millwood  
[uniquevenues.com/carterhall](http://uniquevenues.com/carterhall)

CEB Waterview Conference Center // Arlington  
[uniquevenues.com/Waterview](http://uniquevenues.com/Waterview)

▶ Convene at 1800 Tysons Blvd // McLean  
[uniquevenues.com/Conveneat1800](http://uniquevenues.com/Conveneat1800)

▶ Eastern Mennonite University // Harrisonburg  
[uniquevenues.com/EMU](http://uniquevenues.com/EMU)

Green Acres // Fairfax  
[uniquevenues.com/GreenAcres](http://uniquevenues.com/GreenAcres)

Historic Blenheim // Fairfax  
[uniquevenues.com/historicblenheim](http://uniquevenues.com/historicblenheim)

▶ Historic Rosemont Manor // Berryville  
[uniquevenues.com/RosemontManor](http://uniquevenues.com/RosemontManor)

James Madison University // Harrisonburg  
[uniquevenues.com/JMU](http://uniquevenues.com/JMU)

▶ Longwood University // Farmville  
[uniquevenues.com/Longwood](http://uniquevenues.com/Longwood)

▶ Meetings & Events @ Regal Ballston  
Common Stadium 12 // Arlington  
[uniquevenues.com/RegalBallston](http://uniquevenues.com/RegalBallston)

▶ Old Dominion University // Norfolk  
[uniquevenues.com/OldDominion](http://uniquevenues.com/OldDominion)

Old Town Hall // Fairfax  
[uniquevenues.com/oldtownhall](http://uniquevenues.com/oldtownhall)

Pine Creek Retreat Center // Gore  
[uniquevenues.com/PineCreek](http://uniquevenues.com/PineCreek)

Richmond Raceway Complex  
[uniquevenues.com/RichmondRaceway](http://uniquevenues.com/RichmondRaceway)

Roanoke College // Salem  
[uniquevenues.com/Roanoke](http://uniquevenues.com/Roanoke)

▶ The College of William and Mary // Williamsburg  
[uniquevenues.com/WilliamandMary](http://uniquevenues.com/WilliamandMary)

The Stacy C. Sherwood Center // Fairfax  
[uniquevenues.com/thesherwood](http://uniquevenues.com/thesherwood)

▶ University of Richmond  
[uniquevenues.com/UnivRichmond](http://uniquevenues.com/UnivRichmond)



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

## Bryant University

Smithfield, Rhode Island • (401) 232-6921 • [conf@bryant.edu](mailto:conf@bryant.edu)

- One-stop shop
- Peaceful, secure campus with free parking
- Air conditioned accommodations, including suites and apartments
- On-campus dining
- Newly renovated air-conditioned, flexible meeting spaces and facilities for up to 1,200
- Modern athletic facilities – turf and grass fields
- Advanced technology (free Wi-Fi)
- Located near Providence, Boston, and NYC

### the CONFERENCE & EVENT CENTER at CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE

THE PERFECT SPOT FOR ANY EVENT!  
Conferences, Meetings, Trainings, Summer Camps, and Group Summer Lodging...

Unique venue in Burlington, VT with nearby entertainment and outdoor recreation options.

For more information, contact us at:  
[eventcenter@champlain.edu](mailto:eventcenter@champlain.edu)  
866-872-3603 • [www.champlain.edu/eventcenter](http://www.champlain.edu/eventcenter)

## FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Located in the Heart of Massachusetts

Conference Rooms Available for Booking

Event Services Available

State of the Art Technology

Recently Renovated Facilities

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT US AT  
[fitchburgstate.edu/conferences](http://fitchburgstate.edu/conferences)  
[conferences@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:conferences@fitchburgstate.edu)

OR CALL US AT  
(978) 665-3163

## free site search service

unique  
venues  
you belong here™

[uniquevenues.com](http://uniquevenues.com)



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

Virginia Commonwealth University // Richmond  
uniquevenues.com/VCU

Virginia Tech // Blacksburg  
uniquevenues.com/VirginiaTech

Virginia Tech Executive Briefing Center // Arlington  
uniquevenues.com/VATechResearchCtr

## WASHINGTON

Camp Berachah Conference & Retreat Center  
// Auburn  
uniquevenues.com/CampBerachah

Gonzaga University // Spokane  
uniquevenues.com/GonzagaUniversity

Meetings & Events @ Regal Meridian 16 // Seattle  
uniquevenues.com/RegalMeridian16

Melrose Market Studios // Seattle  
uniquevenues.com/MelroseMarket

» Pacific Lutheran University // Tacoma  
uniquevenues.com/PacificLutheran

» Seattle University  
uniquevenues.com/SeattleUniv

» University of Puget Sound // Tacoma  
uniquevenues.com/UnivPugetSound

» University of Washington // Seattle  
uniquevenues.com/UnivWashington

## WEST VIRGINIA

Potomac Park Retreat & Conference Ctr // Falling Waters  
uniquevenues.com/PotomacPark

## WISCONSIN

Carroll University // Waukesha  
uniquevenues.com/CarrollUniv

George Williams College of Aurora Univ // Williams Bay  
uniquevenues.com/GeorgeWilliams

Initiative's Retreat // Green Bay  
uniquevenues.com/InitiativesRetreat

Manitowoc Area Visitors and Convention Bureau  
// Manitowoc  
uniquevenues.com/ManitowocCVB

Marquette University Conference Services // Milwaukee  
uniquevenues.com/Marquette

North Shore Country Club // Mequon  
uniquevenues.com/NSCountryClub

Silver Lake College of the Holy Family // Manitowoc  
uniquevenues.com/silverlakecollege

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Alumni Welcome & Conference Ctr  
uniquevenues.com/UWOshkosh

Wayland Academy // Beaver Dam  
uniquevenues.com/WaylandAcademy

## WYOMING

» University of Wyoming Conference Center // Laramie  
uniquevenues.com/uwyomingconferencectr

## OVER 300 GLOBAL PORTS OF CALL

Royal Caribbean Adventure of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/adventureoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Allure of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/AllureoftheSeas

Royal Caribbean Brilliance of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/brillianceoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Enchantment of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/enchantmentoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Explorer of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/explorerofttheseas

Royal Caribbean Freedom of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/FreedomoftheSeas

Royal Caribbean Grandeur of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/grandouroftheseas

Royal Caribbean Independence of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/independenceoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Jewel of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/jeweloftheseas

Royal Caribbean Legend of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/legendoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Liberty of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/libertyoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Majesty of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/majestyoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Mariner of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/marineroftheseas

Royal Caribbean Monarch of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/monarchoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Navigator of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/navigatoroftheseas

Royal Caribbean Oasis of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/oasisoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Radiance of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/radianceoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Rhapsody of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/rhapsodyoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Serenade of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/serenadeoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Splendour of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/splendouroftheseas

Royal Caribbean Vision of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/visionoftheseas

Royal Caribbean Voyager of the Seas  
uniquevenues.com/voyageroftheseas

## CANADA

### ALBERTA

Arts Commons // Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/ArtsCommons

» Cineplex Alberta  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexAlberta

Cineplex Cinemas Eau Claire // Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexEauClaire

Cineplex Cinemas South Edmonton  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexOdeonSouthEdmonton

Cineplex Cinemas Windermere & VIP Cinemas // Edmonton  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexOdeonWindermere

Cineplex Sunridge Spectrum Cinemas // Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexOdeonSunridge

» Dow Centennial Centre // Fort Saskatchewan  
uniquevenues.ca/dowcentennialcentre

MacEwan University // Edmonton  
uniquevenues.ca/MacEwanUniv

Metropolitan Centre // Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/MetropolitanCentre



# INDEX

Moonlight Bay Centre // Edmonton  
uniquevenues.ca/MoonlightBay

Mount Royal Univ Events and Conference  
Services // Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/MRUECS

Red Deer College  
uniquevenues.ca/RedDeerCollege

SAIT Polytechnic // Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/SAIT

Scotiabank Theatre Chinook (Cineplex) //  
Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexChinook

The Banff Centre  
uniquevenues.ca/BanffCtr

The Kahanoff Conference Centre // Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/Kahanoff

University of Alberta Conference Centre //  
Edmonton  
uniquevenues.ca/UAlberta

University of Calgary  
uniquevenues.ca/UnivCalgary

University of Calgary Downtown Campus  
uniquevenues.ca/UCalgaryDowntown

University of Lethbridge  
uniquevenues.ca/UnivLethbridge

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

Anvil Centre // New Westminster  
uniquevenues.ca/AnvilCentre

Bethlehem Retreat Centre // Nanaimo  
uniquevenues.ca/BethlehemRetreat

Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art //  
Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/BillReidGallery

Cineplex British Columbia  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexBritishColumbia

Deeley Exhibition // Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/deeleymotorcycleexhibition

Diamond Ballroom and Catering // Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/diamondballroom

Emerald Lake Lodge // Field  
uniquevenues.ca/EmeraldLake

Hatley Castle at Royal Roads  
University // Victoria  
uniquevenues.ca/RoyalRoads



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

## Your first choice to hold your event, *NATURALLY*



Come stay on  
our campus and  
explore our beautiful,  
natural environment.

Florida Gulf Coast University,  
Campus Conference Programs  
10501 FGCU Blvd. S.,  
Fort Myers, FL 33965-6565

**(239) 590-1426**

[www.fgcu.edu/CampusConferences](http://www.fgcu.edu/CampusConferences)

Newly constructed residence halls for summer rental  
400 acres of conservation land  
5 miles of nature trails • 15 acre solar field

**LMU|LA Conference & Event Services**  
*Louisiana Methodist University*

Private University located 5 minutes  
from Los Angeles International Airport

Meeting and Banquet space available Year-round  
On-campus housing available June 1 - August 1

Follow us!

@LMUConferences  
 /LMUConferences  
 @LMUConferences

One LMU Drive, MS B150 | Los Angeles, CA 90045  
Phone: 310.388.2875 - Fax: 310.388.1808  
conferences@lmu.edu  
[www.lmu.edu/conference](http://www.lmu.edu/conference)

**RYERSON CONFERENCE SERVICES & LODGING**  
ONE-STOP CONFERENCE FACILITIES IN DOWNTOWN TORONTO

240 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ontario M5B 2L1  
meeting@ryerson.ca [www.ryerson.ca/conference](http://www.ryerson.ca/conference)

**SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY**

- Affordable, safe housing for groups of all sizes & ages
- Meal plans & classrooms to fit all budgets
- Accommodate up to 1,700 guests
- 4 residence halls

June 2 - August 6, 2016

Conference Services  
San José State University  
University Housing Services  
One Washington Square  
San José, CA 95128-0133

(408) 795-5672  
uls-conferences@sjsu.edu  
[bit.ly/sjsuconferences](http://bit.ly/sjsuconferences)



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

Pacific National Exhibition // Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/PNEBC

Painted Boat Resort // Madeira Park  
uniquevenues.ca/PaintedBoat

PAL Studio Theatre // Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/PALStudio

Residence & Conference Centre - Kamloops  
uniquevenues.ca/ThompsonRiversKamloops

Robert H Lee Alumni Centre UBC // Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/LeeAlumniCentre

Royal BC Museum // Victoria  
uniquevenues.ca/RoyalBCMuseum

Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver (Cineplex)  
uniquevenues.ca/ScotiabankVancouver

Simon Fraser University // Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/MorrisWosk

Simon Fraser University - Burnaby  
uniquevenues.ca/SimonFraser

University of British Columbia - Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/UBC

Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre  
uniquevenues.ca/VancouverAquarium

Vancouver Art Gallery  
uniquevenues.ca/VancouverArtGallery

Vancouver Lookout  
uniquevenues.ca/VancouverLookout

Waterview // Vancouver  
uniquevenues.ca/WaterviewBC

## MANITOBA

Cineplex Cinemas McGillivray & VIP // Winnipeg  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexMcGillivray

The University of Winnipeg  
uniquevenues.ca/UnivWinnipeg

## NEW BRUNSWICK

Cineplex Cinemas Dieppe // Moncton  
uniquevenues.ca/cineplexmoncton

Huntsman Fundy Discovery Aquarium // St. Andrews  
uniquevenues.ca/HuntsmanFundy

University of New Brunswick Conf Services // Fredericton  
uniquevenues.ca/UNB

## NEWFOUNDLAND

Memorial University of Newfoundland - St. John's Campus  
uniquevenues.ca/MemorialUnivStJohns

Memorial University, Grenfell Campus // Corner Brook  
uniquevenues.ca/MemorialUniv

## NOVA SCOTIA

Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 // Halifax  
uniquevenues.ca/CaMuseumImmigration

Dalhousie University // Halifax  
uniquevenues.ca/Dalhousie

Mount Saint Vincent University // Halifax  
uniquevenues.ca/MSVU

Saint Mary's University // Halifax  
uniquevenues.ca/SaintMarysUniversity

Scotiabank Theatre Halifax  
uniquevenues.ca/cineplexhalifax

University of King's College // Halifax  
uniquevenues.ca/UnivKingsCollege

## ONTARIO

Algoma University // Sault Ste Marie  
uniquevenues.ca/algomauniversity

Brescia University College // London  
uniquevenues.ca/BresciaUniv

Brock University // St. Catharines  
uniquevenues.ca/Brock

Carleton University, Conference Services // Ottawa  
uniquevenues.ca/CarletonUniv

Cineplex Cinemas Lansdowne // Ottawa  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexLansdowne

Cineplex Cinemas Queensway & VIP // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexOdeonQueensway

Cineplex Cinemas Varsity & VIP // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexOdeonVarsity

Cineplex Cinemas Yonge and Dundas // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/CineplexOdeonYongeDundas

Cineplex Cinemas Yorkdale // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/SilvercityYorkdale

CINEPLEX Groups & Events // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/Cineplex

# venue

Fanshawe College Conference Services // London  
uniquevenues.ca/fanshawecollege

Georgian Conference and Event Services // Barrie  
uniquevenues.ca/GeorgianConferenceServices

Glendon College - Accommodation and Conf Services // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/Glendon

Humber Accommodations & Conf Services // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/Humber

Ivey Tangerine Leadership Centre // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/iveying

NAV Centre // Cornwall  
uniquevenues.ca/NAVCentre

Nipissing University Residence and Conf Services // North Bay  
uniquevenues.ca/Nipissing

Residence & Conference Centre - Hamilton  
uniquevenues.ca/MohawkHamilton

Residence & Conference Centre - Niagara-on-the-Lake  
uniquevenues.ca/NiagaraNOTL

Residence & Conference Centre - Oshawa  
uniquevenues.ca/DurhamCollege

Residence & Conference Centre - St. Clair College // Windsor  
uniquevenues.ca/rccstclaircollege

Residence & Conference Centre - Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/SenecaNewnham

Ryerson Conference Services and Lodging // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/ryerson

Scotiabank Theatre Toronto (Cineplex)  
uniquevenues.ca/ScotiabankToronto

Sleepy Hollow Country Club // Stouffville  
uniquevenues.ca/SleepyHollow

SPiN Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/SpinToronto

St. Lawrence College Conf Services // Kingston  
uniquevenues.ca/StLawrence

The Second City Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/secondcitytoronto

TMX Broadcast Centre // Toronto  
uniquevenues.ca/TMXBroadcast



# INDEX

» Trent University // Peterborough  
[uniquevenues.ca/TrentUniv](http://uniquevenues.ca/TrentUniv)

» Université d'Ottawa/University of Ottawa  
[uniquevenues.ca/UnivOttawa](http://uniquevenues.ca/UnivOttawa)

» University of Toronto at Scarborough  
[uniquevenues.ca/utorontoscarborough](http://uniquevenues.ca/utorontoscarborough)

University of Waterloo  
[uniquevenues.ca/UnivWaterloo](http://uniquevenues.ca/UnivWaterloo)

» Western University // London  
[uniquevenues.ca/uwesternontario](http://uniquevenues.ca/uwesternontario)

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Univ of Prince Edward Island // Charlottetown  
[uniquevenues.ca/UPEI](http://uniquevenues.ca/UPEI)

## QUEBEC

» Bishop's University // Sherbrooke  
[uniquevenues.ca/BishopsUniversity](http://uniquevenues.ca/BishopsUniversity)

Centre Mont-Royal // Montreal  
[uniquevenues.ca/CentreMont-Royal](http://uniquevenues.ca/CentreMont-Royal)

Crowley Arts Centre // Montreal  
[uniquevenues.ca/CrowleyArts](http://uniquevenues.ca/CrowleyArts)

Scotiabank Theatre Montreal (Cineplex)  
[uniquevenues.ca/CineplexMontreal](http://uniquevenues.ca/CineplexMontreal)

## SASKATCHEWAN

Galaxy Regina Cinemas (Cineplex)  
[uniquevenues.ca/GalaxyRegina](http://uniquevenues.ca/GalaxyRegina)

Hatchet Lake Lodge // Saskatoon  
[uniquevenues.ca/HatchetLake](http://uniquevenues.ca/HatchetLake)

Kinasao Lutheran Bible Camp // Christopher Lake  
[uniquevenues.ca/Kinasaolutheran](http://uniquevenues.ca/Kinasaolutheran)

Scotiabank Theatre Saskatoon & VIP (Cineplex)  
[uniquevenues.ca/GalaxyCinemas](http://uniquevenues.ca/GalaxyCinemas)

## VENUE ADVERTISERS!

## DID YOU MISS OUT ON THIS ISSUE?

*Unique Venues Magazine* is the best way to reach 50,000 professional and part-time meeting and event planners in the United States and Canada.

Unique Venues — promoting unique spaces for over 25 years.



## FEATURE YOUR VENUE!

Contact Jeanne Feathers at 814.254.1310  
or [jeanne@uniquevenues.com](mailto:jeanne@uniquevenues.com)



\*Indicates Best of Award Winner

# PERSON OF INTEREST

BY SELENA FRAGASSI

## *Unique* PROFESSIONAL *of the* YEAR

As the winsome director of university conference and guest services at American University, Kim Araya has turned the operation into a national model for better meetings and events.

*Kim Araya is not only an all-American University star*, but some would say the director of university conference & guest services at the Washington D.C. campus is also at the head of the class of collegiate conferences. “She’s an industry advocate and has worked hard to forward the goals of our niche market,” says Unique Venues President Chuck Salem of Araya, named the esteemed 2015 Professional of the Year. Salem applauds both her proactive nature (such as brokering presentations with meeting organizations to ensure colleges were represented) and her visible presence on boards like Association of Collegiate Conference and Events Directors (ACCED-I).

“Kim is one of the most active regional leaders in the history of the association,” he continues, “and has a passion that is unparalleled.” Araya’s enthusiasm for her job is clear from the moment she starts talking about her 14-year track record. “I love this industry,” she says, “because everybody enjoys their job.” Possibly none more than her.

**Unique Venues:** Take us back to the beginning—how did you get your start in the industry and what inspires you to keep going?

**Kim Araya:** “I started at the University of Minnesota as the coordinator of judicial affairs; my prior background was actually in legal and psychiatric professions. At the time, around 2003, University of Minnesota wanted to change how their summer conferences were run and I said, ‘let me do it.’ I loved my time as a hall director at Iowa State University and thought this job would be a good fit. Within two years the university was on the map. I’ve tried to apply the same idea at American the past two years—to expose universities and get the word out. We are a great hidden commodity.”

**UV:** What are some of the new initiatives you have been behind at American?

**KA:** “We are definitely changing the way we do things. We have a new meeting space opening up in the fall of 2016 and have started a new group on campus for conference and event partners, which is up to 72 members. We are attracting new speakers like President Obama who was here a few weeks ago. There are so many great industries in D.C. too, so we are really catering to the mid-tier market of 100-500 people, which I see as growing. It’s a good niche for universities because it’s more intimate and everything is right here with inexpensive meals and parking and technology. You can’t go anywhere else in the city for that.”

**UV:** Are there long-term visions you have?

**KA:** “One of my current goals is to get a D.C. consortium set up. There are a lot of us and we’re all private. I want Georgetown, Catholic University, George Washington, Trinity and Howard involved with the idea not to compete against each other but work together to swap spaces when buildings are under construction or refer a group when a campus has to turn them away. That’s what I love about our profession: People are so giving and caring and open. Everybody wants everybody else to be successful.” **uv**



**KIM ARAYA**  
Director of University  
Conference and Guest Services  
at American University

### GET CONNECTED

American University  
Washington, D.C.  
[UniqueVenues.com/AmericanUniv](http://UniqueVenues.com/AmericanUniv)  
(202) 885.8247



# It's not meatloaf and mashed potatoes, and you won't find any paper plates here.



Springfield College Office of Conferences and Special Events provides high-quality menu, venue, and setup options for meetings, events, retreats, and conferences.

Our chef creates customizable menus to meet the dietary needs and palate of your guests, and our culinary and event staff members are flexible, creative, and mindful of budgets for events of all sizes.

**Let us provide you  
with the special event  
experience you and your  
guests deserve.**

**Meetings • Events • Retreats**



Follow us on Pinterest at [SCConferences](#).



Follow us on Instagram @[SCConferences](#).



**Office of Conferences and Special Events**

263 ALDEN STREET, SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

(413) 748-5287

[springfieldcollege.edu/specialevents](http://springfieldcollege.edu/specialevents)



# DESTINATION: MAINE!

Colby College offers a complete “one stop” conference operation along with many campus amenities. Located in Central Maine, you’ll enjoy easy access to the coast, shopping, the mountains, and more.

A scenic photograph of the Colby College campus. In the background, a large, multi-story brick building with a prominent clock tower and a steeple stands against a clear blue sky. The building is surrounded by lush green lawns and several large, mature trees with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow, orange, and green. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the surrounding trees and the building. A small wooden bench is visible on the grass near the water's edge.

Colby

Colby Special Programs  
Colby College  
4730 Mayflower Hill  
Waterville, Maine 04901  
Phone: 207-859-4730  
Email: [summer@colby.edu](mailto:summer@colby.edu)  
Web: [colby.edu/specialprograms](http://colby.edu/specialprograms)

Colby College Special Programs invites you to host your summer event on our spectacular college campus in the beautiful state of Maine. Call or email to discuss your event. Visit our website for details.