

**District 8 Toastmasters
Annual Conference
Are We There Yet?
Journey to Distinguished**



**April 26 and 27, 2024
Hollywood Casino and Conference**



Conference Schedule

Friday, April 26

Time	Event	Room Locations
4:00PM- 6:30PM	Registration	Outside of Casino Night Club
5:00PM- 6:50PM	Meet and Greet	Casino Night Club
6:30PM– 6:50PM	First Timers Orientation	Casino Night Club
7:00 PM	Conference Call to Order Proclamation Presentation (Video Banner) Invocation - 2023-2024 CGD Dinner & Special Activity	Conference Center ABCD
8:00 PM	Contestant Briefings	Conference Center ABCD
8:30 PM	Table Topics Contest	Conference Center ABCD
9:30 PM	Winners Announcement & Photos	Conference Center ABCD
9:45 - 11:30 PM	Hospitality	Melrose

Conference Schedule

Saturday, April 27

Time	Event	Room
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Casino Club
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	Candidate Corner	Conference Room CD
9:00AM - 5:00PM	District Bookstore Vendor and Incentive Pick-up	2nd Floor Corridor
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	District Council Business Meeting	Conference Room AB
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Keynote:Its Not Just a Journey Rob Christeson, DTM Past Regional Advisor	Conference Room AB
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Invocation, Lunch, & Roast of the IPDD Karen Leingang, DTM, District Leadership Committee Chair	Casino Club
1:45 PM - 2:45 PM	Yes, And...Two Words to Change your Life Mike MGuire	Conference Room A
1:45 PM - 2:45 PM	Serving the Mission to Distinguished Harvey Fields	Conference Room B
1:45 PM - 2:45 PM	Navigating the Wild, Wild West of Publishing Cathy Davis	Conference Room CD
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Mapping the Journey - Use Toastmasters to Achieve Your Goals Rob Christeson	Conference Room A

Conference Schedule

Saturday, April 27 (Continued)

Time	Event	Room
3:00-4:00 PM	FLIP:Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and Pinterest Dr. Janell Harvey	Conference Room B
3:00-4:00 PM	Job Search Tools, Tips and Strategies needed to Land a New Job LaDonna Mitchell	Conference Room CD
5:50 PM	Dignitary Line Up	Outside of Conference Room A
6:00-7:30 PM	Invocation, Dinner, and Distinguished Toastmaster Acknowledgment	Conference Room ABCD
7:00PM	Contests Briefing	Conference Room ABCD
7:30-8:30 PM	International Speech Contest	Conference Room ABCD
8:30 PM	District Leader Induction, Incoming DD Address, Announcements, and Outgoing DD Address	Conference Room ABCD
9:30 PM	Winner Announcements, Photos and Celebration	Conference Room ABCD
9:45PM	Live Band and Celebration	Conference Room ABCD

Speech Contests

Table Topics Speech Contestants

Speaking Order		Place
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

International Speech Contestants

Speaking Order		Place
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Contest Roles

Contest Chairs	Art Anderson and Art Stanze, DTM
Contest Master	Marquetta Wise
Chief Judge	RJ Stratton, DTM
Timers	Terri Orban
Timers	Christina Rogers
Ballot Counter	LaKesha Bolden
Ballot Counter	Karen Dew-Poe
Sgt Arms	Art Anderson
Sgt Arms	Sara Dahm
Sgt Arms	Robin Cole
Audio/Visual	David Kincade, DTM
Refreshments	Tammy Graves
Certificates/Trophies	Art Stanze, DTM

Judges - Thank You





Table Topics® Contest

Judge's Guide and Ballot

JUDGING ITEMS		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR										
Speech Development Opening, Body, Close, Organization, Smoothness	CONTENT 55	30	23-29	17-22	0-16										
Effectiveness Logic, Directness, Enthusiasm Achievement of Purpose, Audience Response		25	18-24	11-17	0-10										
Physical Appearance, Body Language, Speaking Area	DELIVERY 30	15	11-14	6-10	0-5										
Voice Flexibility, Volume		15	11-14	6-10	0-5										
Appropriateness To Speech Purpose And Audience	LANGUAGE 15	10	8-9	6-7	0-5										
Correctness Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		5	4	3	2										
TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)															

(Detach and submit to counters)

NOTE: Votes must be cast for first, second and third place or the ballot will be voided.

PLACE	RANKING POINTS (for counters' use only)
First Place	3 points
Second Place	2 points
Third Place	1 point



International Speech Contest

Judge's Guide and Ballot

JUDGING ITEMS		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		E X C E L L E N T	V E R Y G O O D	G O O D	F A I R										
Speech Development Structure, Organization, Support Material	C O N T E N T	20	14-19	9-13	0-8										
Effectiveness Achievement of Purpose, Interest, Reception		15	11-14	6-10	0-5										
Speech Value Ideas, Logic, Original Thought		15	11-14	6-10	0-5										
Physical Appearance, Body Language, Speaking Area	D E L I V E R Y	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Voice Flexibility, Volume		10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Manner Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm		10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Appropriateness To Speech Purpose And Audience	L A N G U A G E	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Correctness Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)															

NOTE: Votes must be cast for first, second and third place or the ballot will be voided.

First Place (receives three points): _____

Second Place (receives two points): _____

Third Place (receives one point): _____

Session Descriptions

Yes, and... Two Word to Change our Life Mike MGuire

Mike McGuire will demonstrate how you can use improv principals and exercises to make yourself become a better listener, become more present, become more collaborative, to work on relationships business, professional and personal. You can do all this without performing. Through this presentation many people will have “AH” moments and realize many things about themselves that they did not know about themselves.

Serving the Mission to Distinguished Dr. Harvey Fields Jr.

Harvey encourages use to explore the gravity of our mission to get to “Distinguished”. He will encourage and provide crucial keys to help us along our journey to reach Distinguished. He will reminds us of our unique history and heritage and connecting it to our District today. He will help us recall the powerful impact Toastmasters is in our life and our organizations. Finally, he will awaken the drive in us that will spark our accountability and stewardship to our personal and professional growth and our clubs.

Navigating the Wild, Wild West of Publishing Cathy Davis

What’s the Best Publishing Path for YOU? If you’ve been thinking about writing a book and are unsure if you want to try DIY or go through traditional channels, you’ll want to attend this session.

Gain a broad understanding of the current publishing industry and how to . . .

- FIND YOUR VOICE: Identify Your Author Brand Platform
 - SHARE YOUR STORY: Develop Content that Sells YOU
 - MAKE AN IMPACT: Know Your Publishing Path Options
- Join industry expert Cathy Davis, Founder/Creative Director of Davis Creative Publishing, as she identifies your options, shares pros and cons, and simplifies your decision-making process. Walk away with greater knowledge and a better understanding of your next best steps for publishing your book.

Session Descriptions

Mapping the Journey - Use Toastmasters to Achieve Your Goals

Rob Christeson

Have you ever found yourself in a Toastmasters rut? Not sure what to talk about in your next speech project? Not sure why that next Pathways project is even a project? In this session, we'll look at practical ways to map the goals that brought you to join (or renew) Toastmasters and how you can use the entire program; Pathways, Officer roles, Contests and everything else, to achieve your goals.

MeetUp and FLIP (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Pinterest) Social Media Marketing for Toastmasters Dr. Janell Harvey

Social media should encourage positive interaction. This workshop will examine how leaders of organizations can utilize the most used social media platforms to advertise their efforts, gain new members, and network. Attendees will learn content management, how to go live, create and post a video, and evaluate and develop a social media campaign.

Takeaways:

Understand the fundamentals of social media marketing
Explore various social media platforms.

Job Search Tools, Tips and Strategies Needed to Land a New Job LaDonna Mitchell

This presentation will provide job seekers with some essential tools, tips, and strategies to help guide them in their job search. Developing a solid roadmap is key when looking for new employment opportunities. We will cover some key elements to help job seekers succeed in this competitive job market.

Develop a Professional Online Presence
Engage in Developing Soft Skills

Build Strong Networks and Connections
Build Your Personal Brand Salary Negotiation

Effective Job Search Strategies

Develop a Skill Set
Interview Preparation

Build a Strong Resume

Introducing Our Keynote Presenter



**Rob Christeson, DTM,
Past Region Advisor**

Its Not Just a Journey

For Toastmasters clubs around the world, membership retention and growth are a constant concern. Do you want to could crack the membership code in your club? How do you turn the concepts of leadership and communication in Toastmasters into practical answers to support your member's goals. Rob can not give you the "one secret" to mastery of membership. Sorry. Instead, we're going to learn 3 key principals you can apply in your club to improve the member experience, turn one-time guests into members and paid members into engaged members.

Rob Christeson grew up in nearby Alton, Illinois. After graduating Alton High School, he spent 22 years in the United States Air Force serving as a logistics manager and later an IT project manager. In 2005 Rob joined Toastmasters in Wichita Kansas to improve his job interviewing skills, and since then has served in multiple clubs and district roles, including District Director for District 22 in Kansas and Western Missouri. He has also served two terms as Region Advisor, including Region 3 in 2017-2018 and Region 4 in 2018-2019. Rob currently lives in Overland Park, Kansas and works as an Agile Consultant helping government organizations such as the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) with successfully implementing information technology projects. Rob is also an avid photographer, and can be found on instagram at [howdoiphotodotcom](https://www.instagram.com/howdoiphotodotcom).

Meet Your Presenters

Michael McGuire, CEO, ComedySportz St. Louis



Michael McGuire runs ComedySportz St. Louis, which is an improv show. Everything they is on stage is made up on the spot based upon audience suggestions. For more information check out www.CSzStLouis.com. Michael is also an author of the soon to be released book, "Yes and...Two Words to Change your life." His focus in both is program, Comedy Sportz, and his book is about helping folks to develop better business and personal re-lationships and becoming a better leader, business person, parent and friend. Improv training helps folks to think on their feet! They be-come better listeners, they become more present, and more trusting of their own voice, and to accept changing situations and to make them better--the good, bad or otherwise. Through our training programs, folks get all of the benefits of Yes, And training without ever performing. It's a very interactive and fun program!

Dr. Harvey R. Fields, Jr. Dean, HSSU

Dr. Harvey R. Fields, Jr., graduated from Morehouse College and the Georgia Institute of Technology, with degrees in chemistry and chemical engineering. Harvey accepted the call to the gospel ministry as a junior at Morehouse; preached his first sermon at Liberty Baptist Church ; passed his examina-tion before the Walker Baptist Association of the National Bap-tist Convention and was ordained as Assistant Pastor of Liberty Baptist Church.

Harvey worked for the Procter and Gamble Company for 11 years in various engineering and management positions at locations around the country, actively participating in the community and serving as part of the ministerial staff of a local church in the cities where he worked.

Harvey entered graduate school and earned his doctoral degree in chemistry at Washington University in St. Louis (WUSTL) in 1994. Harvey remained at WUSTL and progressed to the role of Associate Dean for Student Success.

Harvey retired from WUSTL in 2023 to take on his current role as Founding Dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics at Harris-Stowe State University. Harvey is active in the community and, in addition to past service, serves as president of the St. Louis Chapter of the Morehouse College Alumni Association and sits on the board of the Missouri Baptist Medical Center, chairing the Community Advisory Board and serving on the Ethics Committee.



Meet Your Presenters



Cathy Davis, CEO, Davis Creative LLC

Often introduced as a professional BOOKIE, Cathy Davis works with leaders, speakers, coaches, and consultants to publish books that share their wisdom, inspire more people, and make a difference in the world.

Books are in Cathy's DNA and have always played a big role in her life. She believes we all have a story to tell, and it is through sharing our stories that we make personal connections and make a difference in the lives of others.

Cathy founded Davis Creative, LLC in January of 2004 (celebrating 20 years!) as a branding services agency, after spending the bulk of her corporate career as a Designer and Creative Director for Bank of America (nee: Boatmen's). Cathy expanded their services to include publishing in 2005, and her husband, Jack, joined the team in 2008. Their Davis Creative Publishing division is now an industry leader, having helped over 1500 aspiring authors throughout the U.S. and several foreign countries become published, including over 400 Amazon Bestselling authors.

Dr. Janell Harvey, Founder of Harvey Consulting

Dr. Janell Harvey is a retired professor of marketing and author. Harvey has authored textbooks, journal articles, and books on marketing and fund development. Harvey entered the field of fund development in 2002. She is a member of the Grants Professional Association and served on their executive board as treasurer in prior years. Janell is a partner with Rumph and Harvey Business Consulting. The company is CFRE and HUBZone approved. The partners provide nationwide training on fund development for nonprofit organizations, ministries, and schools. Harvey is the host of the Faith and Fundraising podcast on Kingdompurposeradio.com. Her passion is fund development and helping organizations to receive the funding that they need to sustain.



Meet Your Presenters

LaDonna Mitchell, Founder, Career Quake

Ladonna Mitchell attended undergraduate school at Western Illinois University with a BA with a concentration in Public Administration and attended graduate school at Governor State University with a Master of Arts in Communications, Human Performance and Training. She has over 20 years of Human Resources & Development experience working in some of Chicago's most esteemed colleges and universities. In particular, she has worked at Northwestern University, Illinois Institute of Technology, Elmhurst College, Chicago State University, Governor State University and the University of Illinois at Chicago. As a strategic HR business professional and change agent with many years of progressive responsibility she specializing in recruitment, onboarding, team development, HR compliance, payroll, organizational development, and training.

In LaDonna's private life, she identified a couple of different needs in her community and set out to establish businesses that addressed those needs. She currently operates two small businesses Career Quake Enterprises (resume writing and employment coaching) and Pair of Hands Xpress Small Party Rental (rental of yard signs, tables, chairs, canopies, coolers, and speakers). She is also the founder of a memorial scholarship fund and is spear heading a non-profit organization, the Kalia D. Davis Legacy of Excellence Institute in honor of her late daughter Ms. Kalia Davis.



CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHERS



Martika Green is a traveling published photographer. Photography has taken her through a ton of experiences and she has greatly networked with amazing people. She is very passionate in making sure my clients are provided with great images and a good experience. Currently, she has Published images in SWING Magazine a traveling fashion magazine. She's done countless fashion shows from Chicago, Kansas City, New York, St.

Louis and many more places. She's worked with many designers and different brands for many different items. She enjoys learning and linking up with new Creators/Photographers.



Bill Blackard has been taking pictures since he received his first camera, a 120m Kodak Brownie, at age 7. He was the only student photographer for Thomas Jefferson's school newspaper, The Osage, using 35mm film and developing pictures from a darkroom from 4th grade to 8th grade. He was a photographer for Normandy High School's yearbook, The Saga, and the Normandy High School's newspaper, The Viking. Bill took photojournalism classes in college and worked as a professional wedding photographer with 35mm and 6x7 film for 3 years. Bill now takes pictures of his family and friends. His wife's 50 photo albums highlight his talent and knack for taking memorable portraits, music performances, Halloween parties, parades, football, volleyball, basketball, track, birthday parties and family reunions.

Upcoming Events and Incentives



May 1, 2024 – May 31, 2024 **Club Officer Elections**
June 8, 2024 (Date TBD) **Virtual TLI**
June 30, 2024 **New Club Officer Lists Due**

Destination Distinguished Clubs:

Platinum: Any club that reaches Distinguished or Better Status by April 30, 2024 will receive \$50 in TM Gift Certificates.

Gold: Any club that reaches Distinguished or Better Status by May 30, 2024 will receive \$25 in TM Gift Certificates.

Silver: Any club that reaches Distinguished or Better Status by June 30, 2024 will receive \$15 in TM Gift Certificates.

Mailed to the 2023/2024 Club President of the winning clubs by July 31, 2024.

Club Membership Incentive: Beginning March 1, 2024. Every club that has new members join between March 1st and June 30th, 2024, will receive \$5 in Toastmasters Gift Certificates for each new member up to a maximum of 5 new members. Mailed to the 2023/2024 Club President by July 31, 2024.

D8 – Friends – Family – Fun People Incentive: Any District 8 Member that sponsors 3 new members, who join their D8 club will be eligible to receive a Fun, Fabulous, Fantastic gift valued at \$20 from District 8. Member required to: Join, select a path and present their Ice Breaker Speech, information. Pick up at the 2023/2024 Hall of Fame – Honors and Awards Event.

May 1 - June 30, 2024 Beat the Clock Membership Contest: Every club that adds (5) new, dual or reinstated members, will receive a Beat the Clock Banner Ribbon and a Discount Code for 10% off a club order from the TI Store – from TMI. District 8 will give any club that achieves the Beat the Clock, \$50 in TM Gift Certificates. Mailed to the 2023/2024 Club President by July 31, 2024.

Club Lead/Sponsor to Charter a New Club Incentive: Any member of District 8 that develops a new club lead that results in a Chartered club by June 30, 2024, will receive \$100 in Toastmasters Gift Certificates and a Toastmasters Laptop Backpack. This does not include any leads which come through Toastmasters International. Pick up at the September 2024 -2023/2024 Awards Event

New Club Incentive: Any New District 8 club which charters by June 30, 2024 will receive a Toastmasters International Customized Club Banner. Club banner will be presented at the Charter Party or within 60 days of the charter, depending on when the banner arrives.

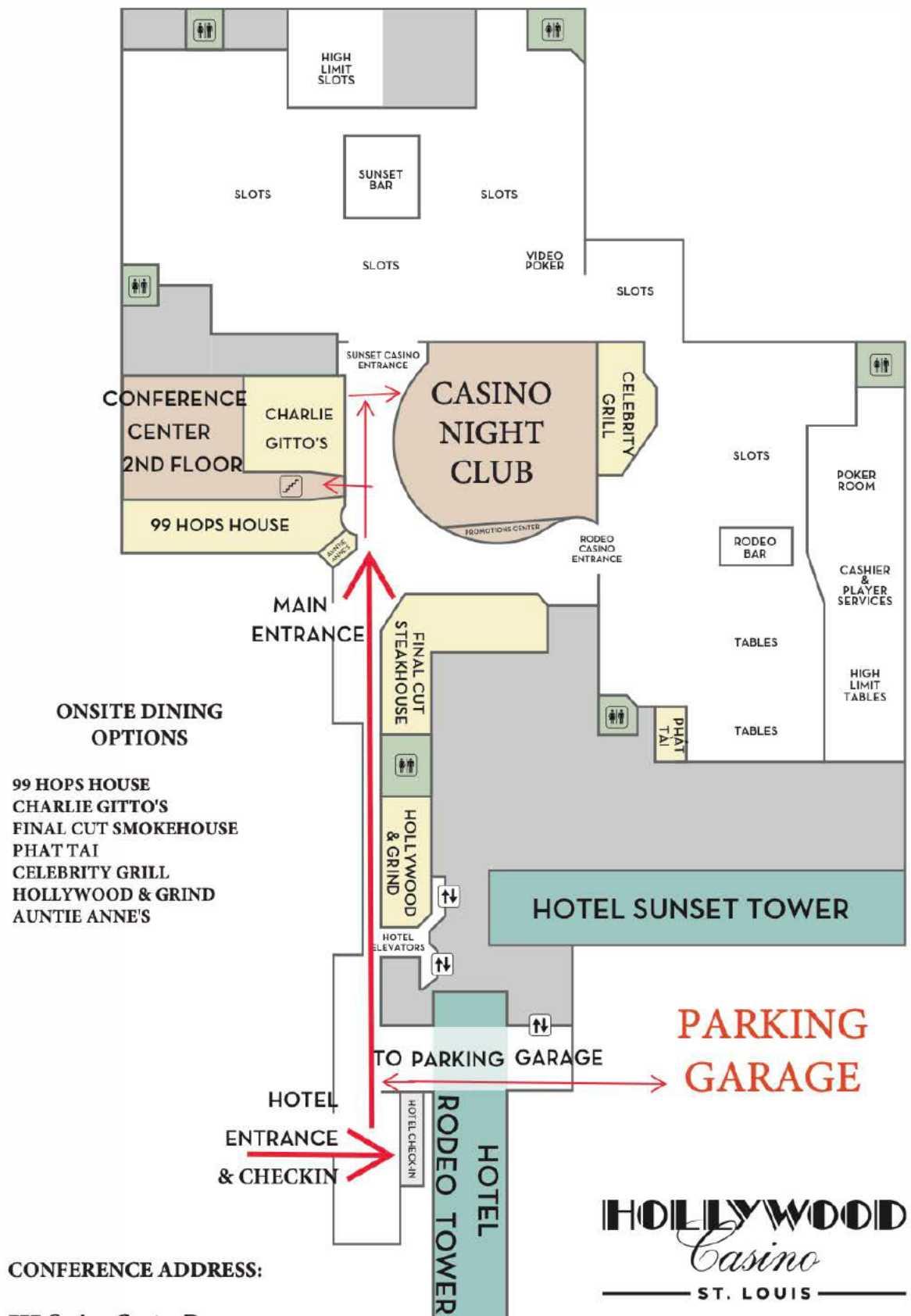
Distinguished Clubs SUCCESS Incentive: All clubs that achieved Distinguished or better by June 30, 2024. Will receive the following amounts in Toastmasters Gift Certificates:

President's Distinguished	\$100
Select Distinguished	\$50
Distinguished	\$25

Pick up at the September 14, 2024 - 2023/2024 Hall of Fame – Honors and Awards Event.

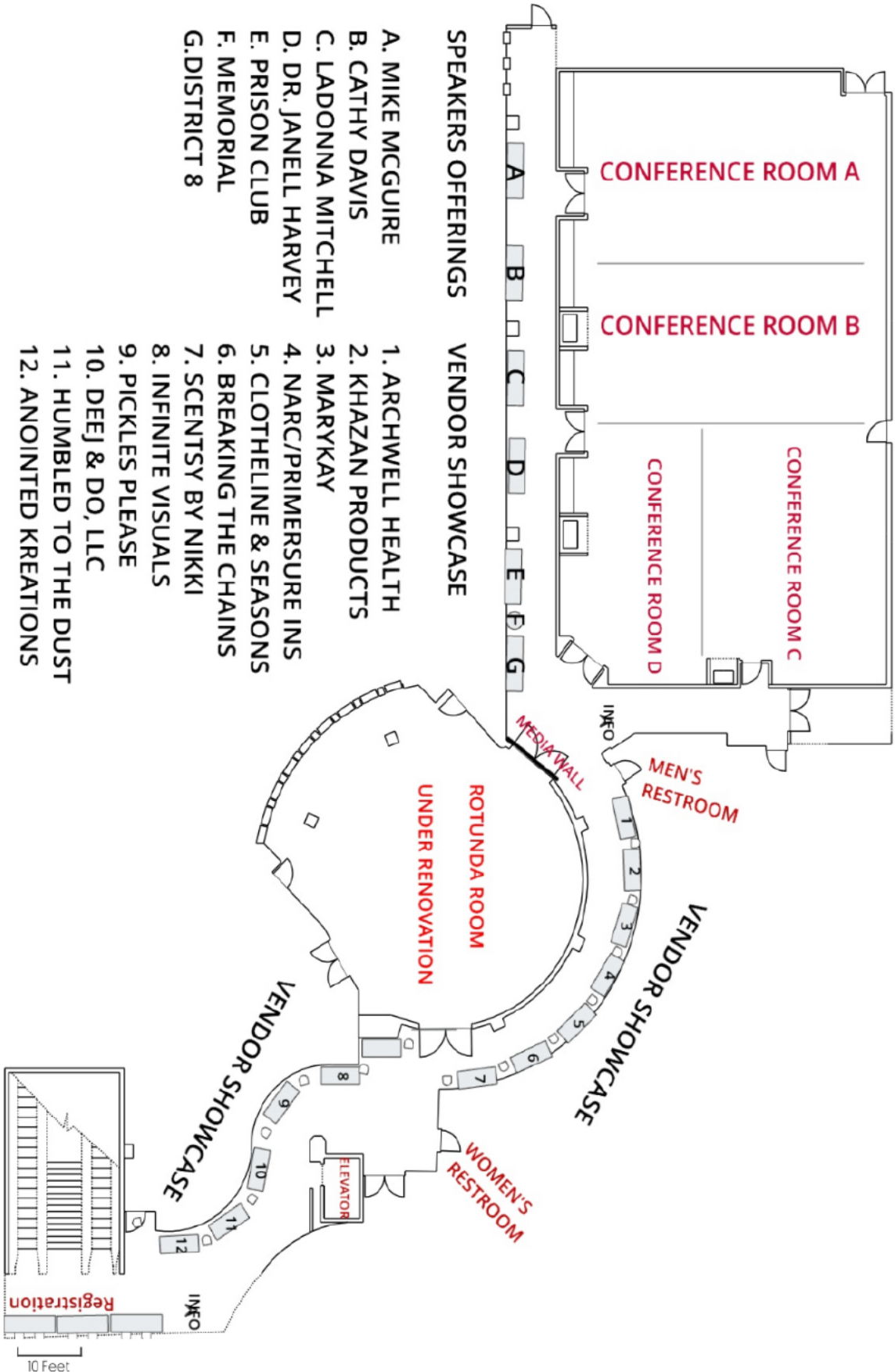
Casino Layout

Hotel Layout



Conference Center and Walk Through

Conference Layout



Conference Roles

**Thanks to the following individuals who made our
District 8 2024 Annual Conference possible!**

Conference Chair	Paula Williams
Conference Co-Chair/Activities Chair	Willie Blue, DTM
Door Prize/ Raffle Committee Chair	Donna Cannon
Bookstore Manager	Tim Spezia, DTM
Registration Chair	Lisa Collier
Registration Committee	Jan Dean
	Kenneth Freeman, DTM
Audio/ Visual Chair/Videographer	David Kincade, DTM
Speech Contest Chair	Art Anderson
Speech Contest Chair	Art Stanze,DTM
First Timers Committee Chair	Kesha Kent, DTM
WebMaster/Logistics Chair	Tom Coscia, DTM
IPDD Roast Lead	David Kincade, DTM
Hospitality Committee Chair	Lawson Calhoun, DTM
Facilities Chair	Charice Manor
Prison Clubs Chair	Curtis Scroggins, DTM

Our Vendors and Sponsors

OUR SUPPORTERS

SMALL BUSINESS VENDORS

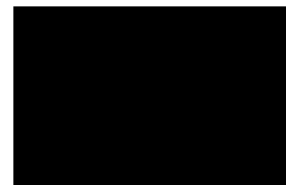
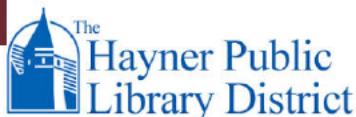
Scensty by Nikki
MaryKay w/ Ange Day
Narcissistic Abuse Recovery
Center & Primerica Insurance

Khazan Products, LLC
Breaking the Chains
ClothesLine and Seasons
Deej & Co., LLC
Pickles by NiNi
Infinite Visuals
Archwell Health
Kustom Kreations
Author, Humbled to the Dust

Nikki Klose
Angela Hornaday
Monica Petersen
Cassie Conner
David Williams
Blair Tinsley
Sharetha Newsome
NiNi Ross
Markitia Green
Angela Ellerson
Yolanda White
Bobby Bostic



Dr. & Mrs. Robert Broady



Mimis Subway Bar & Grill



Mike Green & Friends Band

