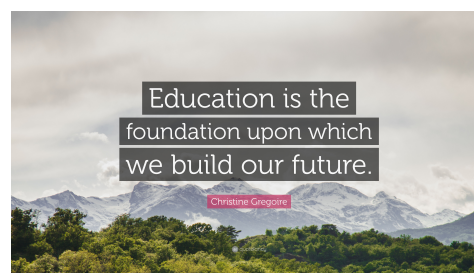




SAVE THE DATE! IAEE February Education Event

February 8, 2023
Donald E. Stephens Convention Center Rosemont
More information to come!



8th Annual Kickball Tournament

Let the Games Begin!

Join us for the 8th Annual Kickball Tournament to “kick” off the new year with networking, food, drinks and fun! Come and play on kickball fields set up in the exhibit hall at McCormick Place. Who will be the 2023 champion? Start recruiting your team today. Space is limited to 8 teams. Not a kickball player? Attend as a benchwarmer and cheer on your favorite team!

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Registration and warm up begin at 4:30 PM

Games begin at 5:30 PM

[Register Now!](#)



Farewell 2022!

It has been my distinct pleasure to lead the IAEE Midwestern Chapter this past year. I am happy to leave you in good hands with your new Chairman of the Board, Gretchen Thielen of the American Academy of Neurology. Gretchen has served our organization in various capacities for several years now and I am confident she will do an outstanding job in leading us into the future.

Any year in review is going to have some ups and downs. But while we started the year with the Omicron variant raging and a vaccine mandate throughout Chicagoland, we were still able to put together a full slate of education and networking events with all of our annual events in-person!

We kicked off the New Year with our Annual Kickball Tournament at McCormick Place. Congratulations to this year's winners, Team CORT! And thank you to McCormick Place for their in-kind sponsorship of this event. We learned how to Navigate a Hybrid World with Technology and Sustainability at our winter education event at the Donald Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont. Thank you for their annual in-kind sponsorship of this event. In June, we partnered with the PCMA Midwest Chapter to create Stop! Collaborate! And Listen! a visually stunning program with multiple workshops for enhanced networking and educational opportunities from workforce to F&B trends to trade show floor design to attendee retention to registration trends. Thank you to our in-kind sponsor the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel for again hosting this event. Along the way, we hosted several virtual Connect & Shares and Virtual Demos to engage our members outside of Chicagoland. We worked on our golf long game at our re-imagined Golf Classic at Topgolf and then our short game at the Annual Meeting at Puttshack featuring IAEE CEO David DuBois. And congratulations to all of our volunteer and scholarship winners! Whitney, Stephanie, CJ and Margaret, you help to make our chapter strong! You are our future! We rounded out the year with our Jingle Mingle in LaGrange and of course, Expo! Expo! in Louisville!

Thank you especially to our Board of Directors! Our board is very much a working board! And I mean, they work! They plan and execute each of these events superbly. Gretchen, Alyssa, Moriah, Cara, Adrienne, Sarah, Amanda, Julie, DT,

Maggie, Keith and Kathy - I truly couldn't have done it without each and every one of you this year. Thank you also to our new Executive Director, Kelli Showalter. Thank you, thank you, thank you all!

Regards,
Heather Larson, CMP
IAEE Midwestern Chapter Chairman of the Board

Introducing your 2023 Board of Directors and Officers:

Executive Committee Officers

Chairman of the Board
Gretchen A. Thielen, CMP, CEM
American Academy of Neurology

Chair Elect
Alyssa Sterioti
GES

Secretary/Treasurer
Cara Angeles, CMP, DES, CES
Lions Club International

Immediate Past-Chair
Heather Larson, CMP
Meet Chicago Northwest

Board of Directors

Bob Chain
Swapcard

Ben Cramer
GES

Adrienne Fitzgerald
Cort, A Berkshire Hathaway Company

Amanda Gustafson
CDS, A Freeman Company

Lisa Lazzaretto
RSNA

Mike Lindahl
National Restaurant Show/Winsight

Kathy Lovato

Lauren Miller
SmithBucklin

DT Love
Freeman

Gus Martinez
McCormick Place

Annual Meeting at Puttshack

EXPO EXPO YP Summary





Thank you to everyone who came out for our Annual Meeting featuring David DuBois at Puttshack.

We especially want to acknowledge our outgoing board member Keith Murphy and congratulate him on his upcoming retirement!



Last week I attended my first Expo! Expo! and I was fortunate enough to experience the event from all angles. YP Scholarship from the IAEE Midwestern Chapter allowed me to see the event from an attendee's point of view, while

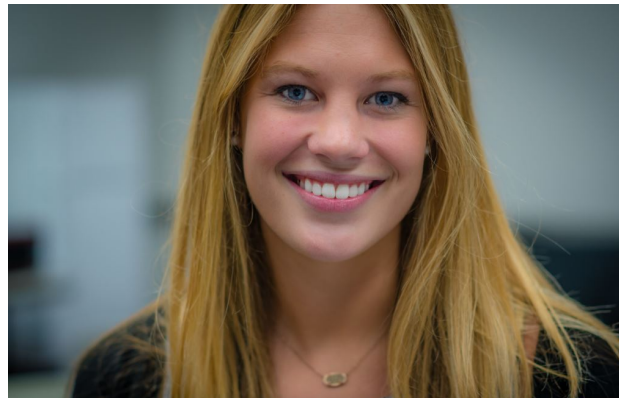
participating as an exhibitor. As a business development associate at GES, this gave me a unique opportunity to meet individuals with different perspectives of our industry.

Prior to the event, the Expo! Expo! app allowed me to research and choose which sessions I could most benefit from. Targeting the sales driven sessions, it was great to hear from such enthusiastic speakers that carried so many years of experience in our industry. The current, relatable content these speakers provided sparked a great amount of engagement between attendees and created solutions to problems that multiple people shared! From show managers trying to boost attendee numbers, to how one successfully makes an impact with a prospective client, I continued to learn from everyone. Even when the content didn't directly correlate to my position, I was able to fully participate and walk away with key tips that I can use every day.

As a first timer at Expo! Expo! it was great to network with a variety of young professionals. Between the meet ups on the show floor, YP sessions, and networking after exhibit hall hours there was an endless amount opportunity to meet new YP's. When I met individuals new to the industry, we were able to listen to one another's experiences and relate to some of the work they have done thus far. Whether it was showing pictures from an event or sharing solutions to problems we have come across, it was important to learn from their perspectives. Additionally, it was great to attend the IAEE Midwestern Chapter Reception and network with individuals I have not met yet at the local events. Hearing about their experiences in exhibitions and events helped me better grasp the direction our industry is headed in while realizing how I can make an impact.

I truly appreciated the presence and opportunity that the exhibit hall offered. I took advantage of meeting people that have been in our industry for 15 plus years and simply listening to the variety of opinions they shared. As someone new in the industry, I got to hear some of the achievements these individuals have earned over the years and create goals for myself. It was great to hear the enthusiasm in their voices when not only speaking about our industry but how important IAEE Expo! Expo! Annual Meeting & Exhibition is to the growth and innovation of exhibitions and events!

Congratulations to our Volunteer Award Winners:



Margaret Dewey, YP Scholarship Winner

Stephanie Didier, President's Award



Whitney Taylor, Volunteer of the Year

CJ Galante, Emerging Leader

We returned to LaGrange for our Annual Jingle Mingle!





Sponsors Needed!!!

2023 Midwest Chapter Partnership Opportunities

It's all about the connections! Partner with #iaeemwc

Consider investing in the Future of IAEE-MWC!!!

We can't do it without all of our sponsors. There are packages available in all monetary amounts. Please read the prospectus, complete the application and email it to Kelli@frontlineco.com.

Prospectus



Shepard Spotlight:

"Shepard is a nationwide, full-service event production company, providing solutions for corporate events, trade shows, conferences, and exhibits. We've been creating engaging experiences since 1905 and have built our business on a foundation of customer service.

Through our combination of in-house capabilities and commitment to quality service, we provide a personalized experience to customers. Our services include event strategy, creative and design, logistics, event technology, audio visual services and production and entertainment."

Our social handles and hashtag are below:

LinkedIn: @Shepard

Twitter: @ShepardExpo

Facebook: @Shepard Exposition Services

Hashtag: #WithShepardYouCan

[Click Here for Video](#)

**Our Expo!Expo! Reception was busting at the seams.
It was great to see so many of you in attendance.**





**Congratulations to our new Midwest Chapter CEMs
And to Lisa Lazzaretto for receiving the Outstanding Marketing & Sales Award**



Congratulations to the individuals from Midwest Chapter that received their CME this year!

Denise Cutler, CMP, CEM

Yanet Coombes, CEM

Justin Swartling, CEM

Elisa Stritt, CMP, CEM

Brianne Somers, CEM

David Saef, CTSM, CEM

Kristen Skibbe, CEM



Contact Info

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Connect with Us

