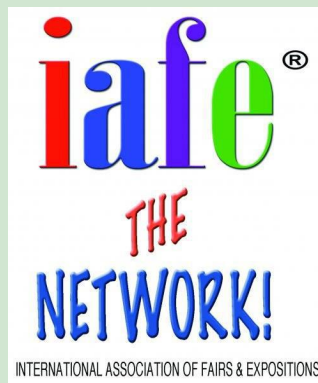




MAAF NEWSLETTER

CONFERENCE 2024 !



MAAF 2024 CONFERENCE INFO & PROGRAM

JANUARY 26, 27 & 28

SHERATON SABLE OAKS

SOUTH PORTLAND, ME

MAAF 2024 CONFERENCE NEWS & UPDATES

Good day all. The conference committee has been hard at work over the past few months preparing a great event for you all to attend. Please remember that anyone can attend the conference and it is free to attend. You can [register here](#) for the conference and accommodations at Sable Oaks in S. Portland!

REMINDER AGAIN - THE CONFERENCE IS FREE AND OPEN TO EVERYONE!

AUCTION: Please remember your auction items.

HOSPITALITY ROOM: Again, this year there will be a Hospitality Room for all to get together and chat. Thanks to our Carnival providers, we will have a reduced price cash bar of beer and wine. This will be located on the first floor in the Portland and South Portland Rooms. Your fair posters will be on display.

FRIDAY PULLING MEETING: The Pulling Commission will be meeting on Friday from 1:00 PM – 4:00 with Pulling Superintendents as well as all of the affiliate groups associated with pulling. Anyone interested is urged to attend as well.

FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE: The Auction and Variety Show Case will be followed by a dance.

SATURDAY LUNCH: The hotel restaurant will be open on Friday and Saturday for lunch as well as having a pre-paid grab and go. More to follow on the grab and go. The food trucks are back on Saturday by popular demand.

SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE: Dance with Hurricane Mountain Band after the Banquet.

SPREAD THE WORD: Please forward this email to all of your Fair Friends!

MORE INFO TO FOLLOW AS WE GET CLOSER



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

FAIRS RISE

REUNITE, INSPIRE, SUPORT, EDUCATE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

MAAF Board arrives on site
3:00-7:00 PM Trade Show set-up
Casco Bay Ball Room

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

7:00-9:00 AM Trade Show set up continues Casco Bay Ball Room

9:00 AM Registration Opens
Follow signs to the Trade Show Area

9:30 AM Trade Show Opens
Casco Bay Ball Room
Auction items will be on display
All proceeds will benefit the Foundation

9:30-11:00 AM Race Directors Meeting
Salon A
Open to all that are interested in Harness Racing

10:00 AM-11:00 AM Livestock Superintendents - State Vet
Salon B

10:30-11:30 AM 2023 Exhibition Hall rep-cap
Salon C
This session will recorded and placed on the website
at the end of the conference

11:30-12:30 PM Registration Desk Closed for lunch
Will re-open at 12:30PM until 2:00PM

1:00-2:00 PM Fairs Helping Fairs Session
Portland/So. Portland Room
Session will be Moderated by Erik Fitch, General Mgr. Blue Hill Fair and Neil Yeaton,
Secretary Farmington Fair
Both are also on the MAAF Board
NOTE: This will be continued after the Annual Meeting
from 4:15 PM on
Who Should Attend?
Anyone involved in the areas described below
How can we help each other in joint purchasing,
advertising, sharing resources, etc. while having a cocktail

1:00-4:00 PM Pulling Commission
With superintendents and affiliate groups and
anyone interested in pulling
Salon A&B

1:45-2:30 PM MAAF Board Meeting
Salon D &E
Open to All

2:45-4:30 PM Annual Meeting
Salon D& E
Welcome: President G. David Byras Jr.

Agenda to be posted and available prior meeting

4:30 PM Fairs Helping Fairs continued
Hospitality Room

4:00-5:00 PM Registration Desk Open
Entrance to the Trade Show
Follow the signs to sign in.

5:00 PM Trade Show Closes.

7:00 PM Auction
Salons D&E
Proceeds go the MAAF Foundation

8:00 PM Variety Show Case with 2 stages
Salons D&E

??PM - 11:00 PM Dance
Salons D&E

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

6:30-8:30 AM Breakfast Buffet

7:30-8:45 AM Fair President's Breakfast
Portland Room

8:00-12:00 PM Registration Desk Open Follow Signage

9:00-9:15 AM Opening Remarks: President Byras
Salon D&E
Deputy Commissioner McBrady MDACF

9:30 AM Trade Show Opens
Casco Ball Room

9:30-11:00 AM - VOLUNTEERS: PLANS, PITFALLS, BEST PRACTICES
Salon D
Presenter: Marla J. Calico CFE President & CEO IAFE

9:30 AM - Fairs of all sizes rely upon volunteers. How are fairs of different sizes motivating, retaining, finding, training volunteers? Why should your fair create a formal volunteer "hiring," training, and firing process?

9:30-10:30 AM - Fair Secretary/Treasurers
Salon C
Everything you need to know about Stipends.
Presented by Missy Jordan
NOTE: This session will be recorded and posted to the MAAF Website after the conference.

9:30-11:30 AM - Maine Assoc. of Livestock Exhibitors
Salon A&B

Lunch 11:00-12:30 PM

1:00-2:30 PM - Delivering Impactful Ag Education Programs at Fairs
Presenter: Ray Allison, CFE Chief Development and Strategy Office, Indiana State Fair

This interactive workshop will explain why Ag Education matters, discuss the role fairs should play in teaching consumers about the food they eat, and highlight unique and innovative educational programs that can be delivered both on-site and virtually. The

session will include a live Zoom connection to the virtual learning studio at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

3:00-4:00 PM - Fountain of Youth -40 Years Old and Under!!!

Hospitality Room
Moderator Melissa Jordan

Fair enthusiasts gather to meet & share ideas
over a beverage

3:00PM - Trade Show Closes

Please network with other fairs in the Hospitality Room
prior to the Banquet.

5:30 PM - Banquet - Grand Ball Room

5:30 PM - Special Presentation(s)

MAAF Contest Awards

Rising Star Award

Catherine Damren Distinguished Service Award

6:15 PM - Banquet and Guest Speaker

Marla Calico, President & CEO

International Association of Fairs and Expositions

Marla is passionate about agricultural fairs and the people who make them happen. She's often referred to as "The Fair Chick." Her role as the President and CEO of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions is the culmination of a life spent involved with fairs – as an exhibitor, a visitor, volunteer, employee and manager.

8:00 PM - Closing and adjourn until dance at

8:30 PM - Music by the Hurricane Mountain Band

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

6:30-9:00 AM - Breakfast Buffet

8:30 AM - Have breakfast with all the
Fair Queens and Princesses

10:00 AM - Conference Committee Meeting
Cape Elizabeth Room

Thank you for attending the 2024 Conference.

See you next year - save the dates -

MAFF Annual Conference January 24-26, 2025

2024 Zone 1 Meeting May 16-18
Sheraton Hotel, Springfield, MA

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www.maineairs.net**

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