

EXPERIENCE
COLUMBUS



This alert contains information on the conventions and sporting events that will be arriving in February and March. We hope you find this information useful for scheduling and to help welcome attendees.

February Events

Buckeye Classic Gymnastics | February 2–5

Attendance:	300
Meals:	Attendees are on their own for meals.
Location:	Ohio Expo Center
Website:	https://www.buckeye-classic.org/
Facebook:	Buckeye Classic Premier Gymnastics Competition
Group Contact:	Star Duvall, skd5713@gmail.com
Sports Commission Contact:	Jason Abady, jabady@columbusports.org

Ohio Valley Region Volleyball – Mizuno Boys Winterfest | February 3–5

Attendance:	2,500
Meals:	Attendees are on their own for meals.
Location:	Greater Columbus Convention Center
Website:	https://www.ovr.org/index.php
Facebook:	Ohio Valley Region of USA Volleyball
Twitter:	@OVRegion
Group Contact:	Ron Wyzynski, rwyzynski@neo.rr.com
Sports Commission Contact:	Jason Abady, jabady@columbusports.org

2023 Ohio Educational Technology Conference | February 14–16

The Ohio Educational Technology Conference (OETC) is the one of the premier P-20 state educational technology conferences in the country. Each year, more than 4,500 educational technology professionals and enthusiasts come together to explore the forefront of P-20 learning and innovation in Ohio.

Attendance:	5,000
Meals:	Attendees are provided some meals.
Location:	Hyatt Regency Columbus
Website:	http://www.ode.state.oh.us
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/ohioetc
Group Contact:	James Freeman III, Ph.D., CETL, James.Freeman@education.ohio.gov

Experience Columbus Contact: Amanda Chiodo, achiodo@experiencecolumbus.com

Ohio Veterinary Medical Association Midwest Veterinary Conference | February 16–18

The Midwest Veterinary Conference, hosted by the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association, is a growing, regional veterinary conference packed with educational, networking and social opportunities for every member of the veterinary team.

Attendance: 5,500
Meals: Attendees are on their own for meals.
Location: Hyatt Regency Columbus
Website: <http://www.ohiovma.com>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ohiovetmed>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ohiovma>
Group Contact: Ashley Sweet, CMP, CTA, ams@ohiovma.org
Experience Columbus Contact: Zach Warmouth, zwarmouth@experiencecolumbus.com

Hockey Time Production Buckeye Classic Tournament Series | February 17–20

Attendance: 600
Meals: Attendees are on their own for meals.
Location: Chiller Ice Rinks
Website: <https://www.itshockeytime.com/>
Facebook: [Hockey Time Productions](#)
Twitter: [@HockeyTimeProd](#)
Group Contact: Matt Rice, matt@itshockeytime.com
Sports Commission Contact: Jason Abady, jabady@columbusports.org

National Precast Concrete Association – The Precast Show | February 23–25

The Precast Show is the largest precast-specific trade show in North America and the one place where you can find the industry's most important suppliers and foremost equipment experts under one roof.

Attendance: 2,500
Meals: Attendees on own for all meals except for the Saturday evening event.
Location: Hilton Columbus Downtown
Website: <http://www.precast.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalPrecast>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/nationalprecast>
Group Contact: Denise Cutler, dcutler@precast.org
Experience Columbus Contact: Hannah Henthorne, hhenthorne@experiencecolumbus.com

National Concrete Masonry Annual NCMA Convention and ICPI Conference | February 21–25

ICPI-NCMA is a proud participant of The Precast Show, the largest Precast/Prestressed Concrete trade show in North America now featuring Concrete Masonry and Hardscape Products.

Attendance: 600
Meals: Attendees on own for all meals except for the Saturday evening event.
Location: Hyatt Regency Columbus
Website: <http://www.ncma.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalConcreteMasonryAssociation>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ConcreteMasonry>
Group Contact: Erin Hobson, ehobson@icpi.org
Experience Columbus Contact: Hannah Henthorne, hhenthorne@experiencecolumbus.com

March Events

2023 Arnold Sports Festival | March 2–5

The Arnold Sports Festival will return to the Greater Columbus Convention Center and Ohio Expo Center in 2023. The festival will feature the world's best physique and strength sports, including the 35th Annual Arnold Classic.

Attendance: 100,000
Meals: Attendees and athletes are on their own for meals Thursday - Sunday. Many attendees will seek late night food options from 10:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m. as events finish up. Consider altering hours later on Friday and Saturday night.
Location: Greater Columbus Convention Center
Website: <http://www.arnoldsportsfestival.com>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/arnoldsports/>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ArnoldSports>
Experience Columbus Contact: Roger Dudley, rdudley@experiencecolumbus.com

Ohio High School Athletic Association State Gymnastics Championships | March 3–4

Attendance: 600
Location: Hilliard Bradley High School
Website: <https://www.ohsaa.org/>
Facebook: OHSAA
Twitter: @OHSAASports
Group Contact: Kate Barnett, kbarnett@ohsaa.org
Sports Commission Contact: Mason Zimmer, mzimmer@columbusports.org

Ohio High School Athletic Association Boys and Girls State Bowling Championships | March 3–4 & 10–11

Attendance: 2,800
Location: Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl
Website: <https://www.ohsaa.org/>
Facebook: OHSAA
Twitter: @OHSAASports
Group Contact: Emily Mason, emason@ohsaa.org
Sports Commission Contact: Mason Zimmer, mzimmer@columbusports.org

OSU Women's Club Volleyball Scarlet and Gray Classic | March 4–5

Attendance: 300
Location: Recreation and Physical Activity Center – Ohio State University
Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/osuwcvb/?pli=1>
Group Contact: Grace Balzer, balzer.36@buckeyemail.osu.edu
Sports Commission Contact: Jason Abady, jabady@columbusports.org

2023 Ohio Safety Congress & Expo | March 8–10

the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, has been connecting members of the safety industry since 1927. OSC23® will present leading education for safety and health professionals from around the country.

Attendance: 5,000
Meals: Attendees are on their own for meals.
Location: Hyatt Regency Columbus
Website: <https://info.bwc.ohio.gov/for-employers/safety-and-training/safety-education/safety-congress>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OhioBureauofWorkersCompensation/>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ohiobwc>
Group Contact: Sherry Johnson, sherry.j.1@bwc.state.oh.us
Experience Columbus Contact: Zach Warmouth, zwarmouth@experiencecolumbus.com

Annual Conference | March 9–11

The CSCTFL conference provides the latest in education and language acquisition with opportunities to learn from national and regional World Language Teachers.

Attendance: 1,000

Meals: Attendees are on their own for meals.
Location: Hilton Columbus Downtown
Website: <http://www.csctfl.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CSCTFL/>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/csctfl>
Group Contact: Anne Nerenz, hberman@actfl.org
Experience Columbus Contact: Zach Warmouth, zwarmouth@experiencecolumbus.com

2023 Career Development Conference | March 10–11

DECA is the co-curricular part of a program designed to promote leadership in students through education and competition in areas of marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.

Attendance: 800
Meals: Attendees are on their own for meals.
Location: Hyatt Regency Columbus
Website: <http://www.ohiodeca.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100077795917273>
Twitter: https://twitter.com/Ohio_DECA
Group Contact: Crystal Dortch, crystal.dortch@education.ohio.gov
Experience Columbus Contact: Zach Warmouth, zwarmouth@experiencecolumbus.com

Ohio High School Athletic Association Boys and Girls State Wrestling Championships | March 10–12

Attendance: 48,000
Location: Schottenstein Center
Website: <https://www.ohsaa.org/>
Facebook: [OHSAA](#)
Twitter: [@OHSAASports](#)
Group Contact: Beau Rugg, brugg@ohsaa.org
Sports Commission Contact: Mason Zimmer, mzimmer@columbusports.org

Ohio High School Athletic Association Boys State Ice Hockey Championship | March 11–12

Attendance: 4,200
Location: Nationwide Arena
Website: <https://www.ohsaa.org/>
Facebook: [OHSAA](#)
Twitter: [@OHSAASports](#)
Group Contact: Dustin Ware, dware@ohsaa.org
Sports Commission Contact: Mason Zimmer, mzimmer@columbusports.org

USA Racquetball National Intercollegiate Championships | March 15–18

Attendance: 300
Location: Recreation and Physical Activity Center – Ohio State University
Website: <https://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=40455>
Facebook: [USA Racquetball](#)
Twitter: [@usaracquetball](#)
Group Contact: Connor Shane, cshane@usaracquetball.com
Sports Commission Contact: Jason Abady, jabady@columbusports.org

2023 State Leadership Conference | March 16–17

A student-led organization investing in middle school, secondary, and collegiate students' knowledge, skills, and futures in the global health community.

Attendance: 1,800
Meals: Attendees are on their own for meals.
Location: Hyatt Regency Columbus
Website: www.ohiohosa.org
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HosaOhio>
Group Contact: Jim Scott, Ohiohosa.14@gmail.com
Experience Columbus Contact: Zach Warmouth, zwarmouth@experiencecolumbus.com

NCAA Division I Men's Basketball 1ST & 2ND Rounds | March 16–18

Attendance:	20,000
Location:	Nationwide Arena
Website:	https://www.ncaa.com/sports/basketball-men/d1
Facebook:	NCAA
Twitter:	@NCAA
Group Contact:	Ron English, renglish@ncaa.org
Sports Commission Contact:	Ariana Tyler, atyler@columbusports.org

Hockey Time Production Buckeye Classic Tournament Series | March 17–19

Attendance:	600
Location:	Chiller Ice Rinks
Website:	https://www.itshockeytime.com/
Facebook:	Hockey Time Productions
Twitter:	@HockeyTimeProd
Group Contact:	Matt Rice, matt@itshockeytime.com
Sports Commission Contact:	Jason Abady, jabady@columbusports.org

ACES Evolve, The Power of Editing | March 23–25

The 27th Annual National Conference, ACES for Editing is the nation's leading organization of editing professionals, educators, and students dedicated to improving the quality of the written word and the working lives of editors. Setting standards in excellence through top-notch training, networking, and career opportunities.

Attendance:	700
Meals:	Attendees are own their own for lunches
Location:	Hyatt Regency Columbus
Website:	https://aceseditors.org/
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/aceseditors
Twitter:	https://twitter.com/ACESEditors
Group Contact:	Abbi Booth, abbiboath@aceseditors.org
Experience Columbus Contact:	Carrie Thiel, cthiel@experiencecolumbus.com

2023 American Cheer Power Grand Nationals | March 25–26

American Cheer Power is a national Cheerleading Competition dedicated to the development of athletes, teams, and coaches. They commit to inspiring excellence in current and future generations.

Attendance:	15,000
Meals:	All meals are on their own.
Location:	Hilton Columbus Downtown
Website:	https://cheerpower.varsity.com/
Twitter:	https://twitter.com/VarsityAllStar
Group Contact:	Francesca Beyer, fbeyer@varsity.com
Experience Columbus Contact:	Carrie Thiel, cthiel@experiencecolumbus.com

2023 Art Materials World Featuring Creativation | March 31–April 4

Namta® is The Association of the art/creative materials industry members. Namta strives to provide members with the products, services and information needed to grow and prosper. Namta is an International Association recognized as a leader and a unifying force in the support, sustainability and advocacy of the Fine Art, Craft, and Creative Materials Industry.

Attendance:	750
Meals:	Some offsite events in the evening, but on their own for meals for a majority of the conference.
Location:	Hyatt Regency Columbus
Website:	http://www.namta.org
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/NamtaAssociation/
Twitter:	https://twitter.com/namta
Group Contact:	Rick Munisteri, rmunisteri@namta.org
Experience Columbus Contact:	Zach Warmouth, zwarmouth@experiencecolumbus.com

The Convention and Sports Alert is published monthly to assist area restaurants, hotels and other facilities in anticipating their staffing and supply needs. To add a recipient to receive this email, have them fill out [this form](#). To change or delete an email recipient, please contact Jenese Wallace at jwallace@experiencecolumbus.com.

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