

**Iowa Council of the United Blind
2023 Conference and Convention
August 25-26, 2023**

Registration

This year's convention is hybrid, so you can choose to attend either in person or via Zoom. In either case, you must pay the registration fee of \$20.00 per person in order to participate in convention business, as well as hear the luncheon performance and banquet speaker. You will be asked on the registration form below which way you have chosen to attend. If you choose to attend by Zoom, we will send you an email--or call if you don't have email--with the Zoom information you need to connect. Convention sessions will also be streamed on ACB Media Radio, but listeners will not be able to participate in convention business or hear the luncheon performance and banquet speaker. Friday night's music at the fire pit by Steve Hagemoser & Band, "Two Tall Guys with Guitars," will not be available via Zoom.

COVID Disclaimer

COVID prevention precautions such as masks and social distancing are not required for convention attendees. The conference area is spacious enough to accommodate any persons preferring distance seating, however.

Hotel Reservations

We are pleased to host our convention again this year at the Courtyard Marriott, 2405 SE Creekview Drive, in Ankeny. The hotel features comfortable rooms with free Internet service, mini-refrigerators, microwaves and flat-panel televisions, as well as a fitness room, swimming pool, and hot tub. The Bistro Restaurant, Starbuck's, and a convenience/sundry store are located on-site.

Room rates are \$104.00 a night for a room with either one king- or two queen-size beds. The total with tax is \$116.48 per night. To reserve your room, call Marriott central booking (800-321-2211) or the Ankeny Marriott office (515-422-5555). To get the reduced rate, you must reserve your room no later than August 11. You must let them know you will be attending the ICUB convention to get the reduced rate.

Transportation

Transportation to and from the convention can be expensive, especially if you live outside of Des Moines. If you need assistance covering these costs, please contact President Bettina Dolinsek at president@icublind.org or 866-436-0141.

Convention Meals

Convention attendees will gather for breakfast on Saturday morning in addition to the usual noon luncheon and evening banquet. The costs are \$18.00 for breakfast, \$22.00 for lunch, and \$40.00 for the banquet. You will need to indicate which meals you will be

attending and your meal choices on the registration form provided at the end of this packet.

Hospitality

Meeting with friends is one of the highlights of attending the ICUB convention. After the first general session on Friday and after the banquet on Saturday, a time for gathering is planned. Food brought in from outside the hotel is NOT permitted outside of your room, but you can bring in beverages and snacks you have purchased from the Bistro Restaurant or Grab and Go area both located in the hotel lobby. Friday night hospitality will be in the Courtyard room (just past the Bistro) and outside by the fire pit (weather permitting). There will be no food or beverage provided for this gathering, but you can bring your own as mentioned above. On Saturday after the banquet, a time to linger and chat will continue in the banquet room. The cash bar will be available, and ICUB will provide some desserts and snacks purchased from the hotel.

Door Prizes and Raffles

Drawings for door prizes will be made during convention sessions and the banquet. To be eligible to win, you must have paid the registration fee and be present in person at the convention. Zoom attendees are not eligible for these prizes. The Des Moines Chapter, however, is giving away a \$100.00 gift card Saturday afternoon to a current ICUB member who is present either in person or via Zoom at the time of the drawing.

Two raffles will be held during the convention, the proceeds of which will go to ICUB. One is a 50/50 raffle, in which the lucky winning ticket holder wins half of the money collected. Tickets are \$1.00 apiece or six for \$5.00. The other raffle is for a \$100.00 Amazon Gift Card. Tickets are \$2.00 each. The winning tickets will be drawn at the banquet, and the winners do not need to be present to win.

Pre-Convention activities

Along with registration on Friday afternoon, we are holding two breakout sessions beginning at 2:00 PM. In the Dancing through Life session, Lisa Davis will provide lessons in ballroom dancing. These lessons are for everyone, and no previous dancing experience is necessary. The Hands-On Art session is an art project lead by Madelyn Mayberry from the Des Moines Art Center and Denise Bean from the Iowa Department for the Blind. They will walk us through creating a make-and-take home art piece. Each session will be offered twice, so you can participate in both if you like. Registration for the break-out sessions will be included on the registration form at the end of this publication.

Exhibits

Be sure to take some time during the convention to visit the exhibit hall. The hall will be open during meeting breaks on Saturday. This year, we have a wide variety of exhibitors who are excited to share their information and products with you. They include:

Beulah Reimer Legacy, BRL - April Enderton

Circuit Breakers Interactive Exhibit

Dubuque Chapter of ICUB

IDB Library for the Blind & Print Disabled

IDB Technology Table

Iowa Radio Reading Information Service (IRIS)

Iowa Reapers Beep Baseball

Jill Wells Art

NanoPac, Inc.

Penny Forward

Blindsoul Shirts by Sam Claassen

Team Run Free

Agenda

**Iowa Council of the United Blind
Thirty-Fifth Annual Conference and Convention**

Friday, August 25, 2023

2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Break-out sessions

Dancing Through Life – Lisa Davis

**Hands on Art with Des Moines Art Center – Madelyn
Mayberry and Denise Bean**

4:00 – 6:30 p.m. Registration

5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Meeting of the ICUB Across Iowa Chapter

**First General Assembly – Convention Host, Mark
Edge**

6:30 p.m. Call to Order – Bettina Dolinsek, ICUB President

Invocation – Cody Dolinsek

Star Spangled Banner – Steve Hagemoser

**7:45 p.m. Convention Greetings – Lori Trujillo, Des Moines
Chapter Vice President**

6:55 p.m. Introduction of Participants

7:05 p.m. ICUB President's Report – Bettina Dolinsek

**7:20 p.m. Election of Nominating Committee – Donna Seliger,
Committee Chair**

- 7:30 p.m. Iowa Department for the Blind (IDB) Updates – Emily Wharton, Department Director**
- 7:55 p.m. Iowa Department for the Blind 4 Plus Program Report – Helen Mejia, Education and Training Director**
- 8:20 p.m. Convention Address – Dr. Cody Dolinsek, Des Moines Chapter President**
- 8:45 p.m. Announcements and Door Prizes**
- Adjournment**

There will be a brief break after adjournment, followed by Hospitality: Music around the fire pit!

Saturday, August 26

- 8:00 a.m. Remembering Those We Have Lost – Jo Ann Slayton and Donna Seliger**

Second General Assembly – Convention Host, Mark Edge

- 8:30 a.m. Call to Order – Bettina Dolinsek, ICUB President**
- Pledge of Allegiance – led by Dr. Cody Dolinsek**
- Thank You to Sponsors, Greater Iowa Credit Union, FuseBox One, The Harkin Institute and Des Moines chapter of ICUB**

Introduction of Participants

Announcements

- 8:45 a.m. American Council of the Blind (ACB) Report and Legislative update – Kolby Garrison**
- 9:00 a.m. Iowa Department for the Blind Library Report – Sarah Willeford, Library Program Administrator**
- Friends of the Iowa Library Report – Don Wirth, Board member**
- 9:25 a.m. Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (IESBVI) Education Update John Cool, Superintendent**
- 9:50 a.m. Break**
- 10:05 a.m. Door Prizes**
- 10:10 a.m. Iowa Department for the Blind Vocational Rehabilitation Program Report – Keri Osterhaus, Program Administrator**
- 10:35 a.m. Accessible Art – Jill Wells, artist**
- 11:00 a.m. Iowa Department for the Blind Commission Panel - Commissioners Mike Hoenig and Amy Salger**
- 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall open in foyer and side room**
- 12:00 p.m. ICUB Luncheon – Des Moines Playhouse performance with audio description by Maryfrances Evans, Executive Director, Iowa Radio Reading Information Service**

Third General Assembly

- 2:00 p.m. Call to Order – Bettina Dolinsek, ICUB President**
- Announcements and Door Prizes**
- 2:15 p.m. 2023 Marie Hoenig Memorial Perkins Braille Award –
Presenter Mike Hoenig and recipient, Dylan Reineke**
- 2:40 p.m. Iowa Radio Reading Information Service Update – Mary
Frances Evans, Executive Director**
- 3:05 p.m. Central Iowa Center for Independent Living, (CICIL)
report – Laura Gibson, Executive Director**
- 3:30 p.m. Break**
- 3:45 p.m. Door Prizes**
- 3:50 p.m. Dancing Through Life – Lisa Davis, retired IDB employee**
- 4:15 p.m. ICUB Business Meeting**
- Secretary Report – Liz Soenen**
- Treasurer Report – Jeana Mowery**
- Audit Report – Jeana Mowery**
- Election of ICUB Officers/Directors**
- Election of ACB Mid-Year & National Convention
delegates**
- ICUB Bulletin Publication Report – Don Wirth**
- Chapter Reports**
- Announcements and Door Prizes**

Adjournment

Saturday Evening, August 26

5:30 p.m. Meet and Greet – Cash Bar and music by 2019 Iowa Blues Hall of Fame inductee, Frank Strong, professionally known as Freight Train

7:00 p.m. Iowa Council of the United Blind 35th Annual Conference and Convention Banquet

Cody and Bettina Dolinsek, Emcees; Mark Edge Convention Host

Invocation – Cody Dolinsek

Banquet Address – Kolby Garrison, ACB Development Officer

Linda Dietrich Volunteer Award

Raffle Drawings & Tactile Centerpiece Auction

Announcements

Hospitality, including dessert and music by Freight Train, will follow in the Banquet Hall.

Convention Registration, Meals, and Donations

Advance registration for the Iowa Council of the United Blind 35th Annual Conference and Convention is due by August 17, 2023. However, you can still register at the

Convention itself if you do not want reserved meals. You can choose one of three ways to register, make your selections, and make payment: online, by email, or by U.S. mail.

Registration online is the easiest way. To do so, go to our website at: www.icublind.org . On the home page, you will find a link that will take you to the Convention Registration page. Fill out the form, make your selections, and submit your payment electronically using the donate button.

If you have received this packet by email, you will find a copy of the registration form below as well as in a separate attached file that you can fill out and print. You can mail the form along with your check to the ICUB treasurer.

If you have received this information by U.S. mail, you can fill out the print copy of the registration form that has been included and mail it with your check to the ICUB treasurer.

If you need assistance in filling out this form, please contact Treasurer Jeana Mowery at 712-310-7140 or eyeforonly1@gmail.com . You can also contact President Bettina Dolinsek at president@icublind.org or 866-436-0141.

Make your check payable to the Iowa Council of the United Blind or ICUB and mail it to:

**Jeana Mowery, Treasurer
29965 185th St.
Honey Creek, IA 51542**

Registration is \$20.00, and the cost of attending all three meals is \$80.00, for a total cost of \$100.00.

Raffle tickets may only be purchased during the Convention either online or in person. Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are \$1.00 each and \$5.00 for six. Tickets for the \$100 Amazon gift card are \$2.00 apiece. Remember, you don't have to be present to win either raffle.

A donation to help defray additional Convention costs would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to make a donation, whether or not you are able to attend the Convention, please indicate the amount on the attached form, or online, and include that amount in your check or online payment. Thank you.

Keep in mind that, if you wait to register at the Convention itself, you may not be able to purchase tickets for the Saturday breakfast, luncheon, or banquet. We must give the hotel a final count for these meals before the Convention begins, and only a few extra tickets will be available for sale.

Registrations made prior to the preregistration deadline of August 17 may be cancelled and a refund of 80% of the registration fees may be requested. The balance of the fees will be retained to cover administrative expenses. Because most costs are fixed by the preregistration deadline, no refund will be issued if a registrant requests a refund after the preregistration deadline has passed. A full copy of this cancellation policy is available by contacting President Bettina Dolinsek or Treasurer Jeana Mowery.

Registration Form
Iowa Council of the United Blind
Thirty-Fifth Annual Conference and Convention

Name(s) of Registrant(s):

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

The registration cost for each participant is \$20.00.

_____ **Number of Registrations included in this form**

Please check the attendance option you have chosen:

_____ **I will be attending the Convention in person.**

_____ **I will be attending the Convention via Zoom.**

Meal Choices and Costs

The meal costs are \$18.00 for breakfast, \$22.00 for lunch, and \$40.00 for the dinner banquet. Please indicate your meal choices below and the number of each meal you wish to purchase with this registration form.

Breakfast (\$18.00):

_____ **The Heartland – scrambled eggs and breakfast potatoes with sausage. Served with a fruit cup and choice of juice, tea, or milk.**

_____ **Bistro Breakfast Sandwich – scrambled eggs, Applewood-smoked bacon, and white cheddar cheese on a brioche roll. Served with a fruit cup and choice of juice, tea, or milk.**

_____ **French Toast – French toast, berries, powdered sugar and warm maple syrup, served with a fruit cup and choice of juice, tea, or milk.**

Lunch (\$22.00):

_____ **Croissant Sandwich – Croissant stuffed with ham, turkey, Swiss & cheddar cheese, topped with bacon, lettuce & tomato. Served with chips, fruit cup and choice of water, lemonade, or iced tea.**

_____ **Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap – Tender chicken, smoked bacon, vegetables, all seasoned with Ranch and encased in a wrap. Served**

with a fruit cup, potato salad, and choice of water, lemonade, or iced tea.

_____ Veggie Wrap – Vegetable wrap served with a fruit cup, pasta salad and choice of water, lemonade, or iced tea.

Banquet (\$40.00):

_____ Stuffed Pork Chop – 10 oz. Iowa Chop stuffed with apple sage dressing and topped with a brandy pear sauce. Served with roasted Yukon potatoes, salad, fresh vegetables, specialty bread, and choice of water, iced tea, lemonade, or coffee.

_____ Bacon wrapped Sirloin – 8 oz. sirloin wrapped with Applewood-smoked bacon topped with a demi-glaze sauce. Served with garlic mashed potatoes, salad, fresh vegetables, specialty bread and choice of water, iced tea, lemonade, or coffee.

_____ Grilled Bruschetta Chicken – herb seared chicken breast topped with roasted cherry tomatoes, onion, basil and fresh garlic in wine sauce. Served with baked potato casserole, salad, fresh vegetables, specialty bread, and choice of water, iced tea, lemonade, or coffee.

_____ Ricotta Stuffed Tortellini – Tortellini pasta stuffed with Ricotta cheese and topped with a creamy Alfredo sauce. Served with salad, fresh vegetables, specialty bread, and choice of water, iced tea, lemonade, or coffee.

Donations

I would like to donate the following amount to help defray the cost of the 2023 Iowa Council of the United Blind Annual Conference and Convention: _____

Total Amount of Check Enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to the Iowa Council of the United Blind or ICUB. Please return all pages of the registration form with your check and mail it to:

**Jeana Mowery, Treasurer
29965 185th St.
Honey Creek, IA 51542**