

Washington State Fairs Association The Showplace of Agriculture Since 1940



CONVENTION PROGRAM

Red Lion Hotel & Convention Center – Pasco, WA

October 19-21, 2023



2023 WSFA Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Andrea Thayer, CFE POSITION #1 \diamond 2018-2026 Washington State Fair PHONE 253.841-5008 andreat@thefair.com

VICE PRESIDENT

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DIRECTORS Sherry Stovner

POSITION #2 vergreen State Fair PHONE 425.508-8628 Sherry.stovner@snoco.org

DIRECTORS (cont.)

Shelly Bennett *POSITION #3* × 2021-2025 Pierce County Fair PHONE 253.377-3547

fairmanager@piercecountyfair.com

Tawnia Linde, CFE, IFMG POSITION #4 \$ 2020-2024 Clark County Fair PHONE 360.931-2896 tawnia.linde@cceventcenter.org

Rebecca Martinez

POSITION #5 \diamond 2020-2026 Grant County Fair PHONE 509.237-2971 rmartinez@grantcountywa.gov

Carolyn Morley POSITION #7 ~ 2019-2023

North Central WA Fair PHONE 509.745-8480 carolyn@ncwfair.org



WSFA SERVICE MEMBER DIRECTOR Tammie Wood 2023 The Source Management Group

PHONE 541.815-1027 tammie@thesourcemanagement.com



The Showplace of Agriculture Since 1940



WSFA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Gale Sobolesky, CFE PO Box 945 Conway, WA 98238 WSFA OFFICE 360.269-9971 wastatefairs@outlook.com

WSFA GOVERNMENT LIAISON Mike Burgess

PHONE 360.233-3020 mikejburg@comcast.net

We wish to thank ...



NOMINATIONS CREDENTIALS AND BYLAWS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CONTESTS AUCTIONS SHOWCASE COMMITTEE SERVICE MEMBERS TRADE SHOW

REGISTRATION

Erin Gurtel, CHAIR Shelly Bennett, CHAIR Tawnia Linde, CHAIR Tawnia Linde, CHAIR Roylene Crawford, CHAIR Carolyn Morley, CHAIR Tammie Wood, CHAIR Rebecca Martinez, CHAIR

Gale Sobolesky Sandey Brandon

and Tammie Wood

2023 Convention Program

Washington State Fairs Association Red Lion Hotel & Convention Center

Lion Hotel & Convention Cente Pasco, WA



Thursday, October 19, 2023 DAY 1

- 10:00 AM Registration Desk Opens
- 10:00 AM-2:00 PM Turn in Contest Entries
- **11:00** AM Trade Show Set-up
- 11:00 AM Convention First Timers Session PROJECT ROOM Do not miss the First Timers Welcome! This session is designed to provide first-time attendees with an overview of the WSFA Annual Convention and how to get the most out of your time while attending sessions. Carolyn Morley, WSFA Director and Manager, NCW Fair
- 11:30 AM-12:20 PM

A Session with State Vet's Office

Join us for an update with the State Veterinarian. Dr. Bruce Hutton, WSDA Region 3 Field Veterinarian, Central WA

12: 30 PM **Fair Managers' Session** This session is designed for Fair Managers/CEOs/Executive Directors whether you are paid, volunteer, appointed or a Fair board member who serves in the function of a fair manager. *Greg Lybeck, CFE, General Manager,*

Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days

12:30–1:30 PM Open Networking with Topic Ideas,

Hosted by WSFA Directors Session 1 – Sponsorship PINE ROOM Tawnia Linde, CFE, IFMG, WSFA Director and Director of Marketing & Sponsorship, Clark County Fair Session 2 – Operations and Grounds OAK ROOM Sherry Stovner, WSFA Director and Superintendent Coordinator, Evergreen State Fair Session 3 – Volunteers EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM Roylene Crawford, CVFM, IFMG, WSFA Vice President and Board Member, Kittitas County Fair Session 4 – Signage on Your Fairgrounds DESIGN ROOM Andrea Thayer, CFE, WSFA President and Chief Experience Officer, Washington State Fair

FOREST REGISTRATION FOYER

REGISTRATION FOYER

OLYMPIC/GOLD

DESIGN ROOM

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SAGE ROOM

Session 5 – Traffic Flow and Fair Layout Tammie Wood, WSFA Service Director and The Source Management Group

Session 6 – Special Interim Events HARVEST ROOM Rebecca Martinez, WSFA Director and Fairgrounds Coordinator, Grant County Fair

2:00 PM **Opening Session of the WSFA Convention**

> SILVER/BRONZE Welcome – Andrea Thayer, CFE, WSFA President National Anthem Invocation - Paul Nimmo, Fair Commissioner & WSFA Past President

Committee Reports

Adventures with IAFE

Coordinator for Spokane County Interstate Fair in Spokane, WA. She has been with Spokane County for 35 years. beginning in the Parks and Recreation Department then transferring to the Fair. She received her Certified Fair Executive designation through the International Association of Fairs and Expositions in 2009 and graduated from the Institute of Fair Management in 2011. She now serves as the IAFE's Course 131 (Competitive Exhibit Programming) instructor in the Institute of Fair Management program.

Jessie McLaughlin serves as the Fair

Jessie is an active member of Boy Scouts of America – Silver Beaver recipient, 2023 National Youth Leadership Training Course Director, and currently serves as the Council's Advancement Chair. She is on the Finance Committee for Camp Fire, having also served as Board President. She is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, currently serving as her ward's gospel doctrine instructor, and is Treasurer of Washington State Horsemen. She and her husband, Dale, have two children - Connor (22) and Emma (26). Emma and her husband, Kody, also blessed them with a grandson, Kaysen, in December. In her spare time, Jessie enjoys training/teaching outdoor skills, geocaching, camping, hiking, and traveling through the U.S. visiting National Parks.

Opening IAFE Keynote 'Adventures with the IAFE: A Journey of Learning in 2023'

SILVER/BRONZE

Jessica McLaughlin, CFE, Spokane County Interstate Fair

Traveling with the International Association of Fairs and Expositions during the past year has given Jessie McLaughlin, CFE, a unique opportunity to witness how fairs in other parts of the United States "do what they do." Get ready to be inspired by the magic of fairs as she takes you on a journey through her travels, highlighting the key insights and memorable moments that enriched her perspective on culture, entertainment, and event management.

SPONSORED BY INC. THE NETWORK! AND THE Spokane County Interstate 3:30-5:30 PM Trade Show

OLYMPIC/GOLD

Interstate Fair



Jessie McLaughlin



4:30-5:20 PM

Time with the WSDA Fair Commission

DESIGN ROOM/PROJECT ROOM

Topics include 2023 Commissioner visits, changes to applications for the yearly allocation from the state Fair fund, Ag Exhibits, and evaluation of county, community, area fairs, and livestock shows every year.

Fair Program Administrator Tracey Keller, Fair Commissioners Laurie Davies, Rich Hartzell, Paul Kuber, Ph.D, Trish Meyers, Paul Nimmo, Tim Schneider and Greg Stewart, and Hannah Mosley-Gonzales, Administrative Regulations Manager

5:45-6:15 PM No Host Social in Hallway

6:15 PM Doors open for Dinner SILVER/BRONZE President's Welcome – Andrea Thayer, CFE, WSFA President Introduction of WSFA Directors Silent Auction Dinner Showcases

9:00 PM (APPROXIMATE)

WSFA President's Reception

WSFA HOSPITALITY SUITE

Friday, October 20, 2023 DAY 2

7:30 AM Registration Desk Opens

FOREST REGISTRATION FOYER

Engaging Our Communities - A DEI Series



Krista Perez

Krista Perez's work is anchored in cultivating spaces of belonging and accelerating equity in our homes, work and communities.

Her multi-disciplinary perspective allows her to view her work through several lenses, which include her identity as a second generation immigrant and descendant of a migrant working family, her background in law, economics and public policy, small business/entrepreneurial knowledge and experience, and her dedication to community organizing.

These experiences inform the work that Krista has done as president and founder of the nonprofit organization, the Tacoma Women of Color Collective, co-founder of The Community Market, a People of Color-centered market, and Perez Consulting, a diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion consulting business.

At Perez Consulting, authenticity, transparency and accountability are prioritized. Krista believes it is important to uproot anti-Black, racist, ableist and biased values while amplifying the voices of communities of color. Key in this pursuit is creating safe spaces for Black, Indigenous and People of Color, embedding longevity into these processes and striving for equitable outcomes.

Please find Krista's recently published book, Unearthing Our Roots; Restorative Practices for Cultivating Spaces of Belonging, here:

https://bluecactuspress.com/product/unearthingourroots/

SILVER/BRONZE

8:00-10:00 AM

Engaging Our Communities – A DEI Series Who Do We Serve, How Do We Serve Them?

Krista Perez, Perez Consulting

This workshop will highlight the importance of knowing the communities that we serve, in assessing how we serve them, and offer beginning tools on how to adapt, change and do better.

WSFA is excited to partner with Perez Consulting to launch a series of discussions and educational workshops that integrate equity, cultivating spaces of belonging and organic community engagement into your organization's systems and processes. Perez Consulting will be facilitating four workshops, starting at the Convention and culminating next Spring. Perez Consulting's approach to integrating equity begins with assessing and reflecting on internal processes, areas of opportunity and strengths to build upon. We believe that equity work begins with each individual and is most probable to have long-term inpact when there is individual

commitment and buy-in from all levels within the organization. SPONSORED BY THE Washington State Fair

10:15–11:30 AM WORKSHOP SESSIONS

SESSION 1

Cannabis and Alcohol at your Fair and Fairgrounds Events Beth Lehman, WA State Liquor and Cannabis Board

SESSION 2

Creating Your Next Generation of Participants, And People Working at your Fair

Washington State Fair has embarked on a multi-year plan to reach new generations of competition and contest participants and the people who work with us. We will share the brainstorming, ideas, wins and challenges that we have already encountered on this journey.

Jennifer Schelbert, Competitions & Livestock Coordinator and Paige Rooney, Exhibits Coordinator, Washington State Fair

SESSION 3

Considerations for Vendor Management

How to prevent misunderstandings with your food and commercial vendors by setting clear expectations in your vendor materials.

Amy DeShazer, Managing Director of Events, Clark County Fair SESSION 4

Overview of the Governor's Executive Order 21-02 PINE ROOM Consultation requirements for capital projects with the Department of Archaeology & Historical Preservation. Maddie Levesque, Architectural Historian,

Department of Archaeology & Historical Preservation

NOON-2:00 PM Legislative Lunch

Andrea Thayer, CFE, WSFA President Tawnia Linde, CFE, IFMG, WSFA Director and WSFA Legislative Chair WSFA and Olympia – Mike Burgess, WSFA Government Liaison Introduction of WA State Fairs Commissioner Ignacio Marquez, Regional Assistant to the Director of the Department of Agriculture

Silent Auction Showcases

2:30-5:00 PM Trade Show / No-Host Social Hour

PROJECT ROOM

OAK ROOM

DESIGN ROOM



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9:30-10:15 AM SESSIONS

SESSION 1

Social Marketing for Fairs: Brand, Strategy and Outcomes, Oh My! Join the Saffire Marketing Team for a discussion about current social media marketing trends, best practices for successful campaigns and utilizing AI and automation tools to generate killer content on limited budgets and timelines.

Jeremy Emerson, Partner/Chief Creative Officer and Megan Bartholomy, Marketing Manager, Saffire

Saturday, October 21, 2023

10:00 PM Jam Session

Dinner

Live Auction Showcases AFTER DINNER—Hospitality Rooms Open

DAY 3

Registration Desk Opens FOREST REGISTRATION FOYER

8:30-9:15 AM SESSIONS

SESSION 1

8:00 AM

OLYMPIC/GOLD How to deal with Aging Facilities and producing an up-to-date plan for improving your facility.

A panel presentation. Greg Lybeck, CFE, General Manager,

5:45–6:15 PM No Host Social in Hallway

Candidate Speeches Lifetime Achievement Award Service Member of the Year Award

Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days Erin Gurtel, IFMG, Immediate WSFA Past President and Director, Spokane County Interstate Fair Kathy Kramer, CVE, CFEE, CMP President and CEO,

Central Washington State Fair Kady Porterfield, CFE, Manager, Kittitas Valley Event Center

SESSION 2

Junior Fair Boards OAK ROOM Jessica McLaughlin, CFE, Spokane County Interstate Fair

SESSION 3

SESSION 4

Press Releases – Telling Our Story PINE ROOM In this session, we will review the steps in drafting a press release and discuss how to distribute them in an ever-changing media environment.

Tawnia Linde, CFE, IFMG, Marketing & Sponsorship Director, Clark County Fair

Super Saturday Super School Session "Hitting a Home Run with Department of Agriculture SS

Evaluations at your Fair" Give your next evaluation a "Grand Slam" by receiving

recognition for all your Fair does well. Join a panel discussion that will share tips and tricks to "hit for the cycle." Paul Nimmo, WSDA Fair Commissioner

Paul Kuber, Ph.D, WSDA Fair Commissioner Belinda Royal, Manager, Stanwood Camano Community Fair Karen Welch, Manager, Chelan County Fair

SILVER/BRONZE

DESIGN ROOM

PINE ROOM



6:15 PM

IT'S SHOW TIME





OAK ROOM

SESSION 2 Idea Swap



Entertainment on a Budget

What are creative ways that you have designed to engage entertainment at your fair on a budget? How have you

worked with your entertainment in unique ways while on a budget? Bring your ideas and your questions to this Entertainment-focused swap.

Andrea Thayer, CFE, WSFA President, Washington State Fair Fairs, please bring samples or be prepared to share how your fair manages this topic.

SESSION 3

Creating VIP Experiences at Your Fair

PROJECT ROOM

Learn how to ensure your fairgoers have the best possible experience.

Kathy Kramer, CVE, CFEE, CMP President and CEO,

Central Washington State Fair Shanna Hauger, Marketing Director, Benton Franklin Fair & Rodeo Jaclyn Van Hoof, Sales and Marketing Coordinator, King Co. Fair SESSION 4

Super Saturday Super School Session

DESIGN ROOM



Creative Displays Revamping your Area Revitalize your exhibits by shaking it up! Judy Carrico, CFE, Agriculture and Exhibit Manager, Central Washinaton State Fair

Build a Better Now



Greg Bennick

Greg Bennick knows about focus. Through reading about his life, you wouldn't know that. He has been a thought provoker, public presenter, comedic juggler and punk rock vocalist (yes, you read that correctly), a TEDx speaker, a humanitarian and philanthropist, and an influencer devoted to transforming the world by inspiring personal and social change ... and a long-time fair performer and active past member of the WSFA! He is here to share ideas and laughs with us as we learn together. You can find out more at gregbennick.com

10:30–11:30 AM Keynote Speaker "Build a Better Now"

OLYMPIC/GOLD

Greg Bennick is here to inspire us to Build a Better Now. Greg comes from the Fair family and understands our world! His interactive keynote explores ideas around how we can best use this moment as a launching point for the future we want. He has customized his talk today for us to include ideas that he experienced in his many years serving this community. Greg is from Seattle and always makes sure audiences have a great time. Find out more at www.gregbennick.com

12:15–2:00 PM Luncheon

Introduction of WSFA Past Presidents Silent Auction Showcases SILVER/BRONZE

2:15–3:05 PM SESSIONS

SESSION 1

IT'S SHOW TIME

Entertainment Scheduling Conflicts. Learn how to maximize your entertainment through scheduling.

Are you getting the full potential out of your entertainment? Conflicting schedules? Monster Trucks going right by the "Community Stage"? Not enough time to flip bands? A children's show at 9 pm? Do you put together a schedule that flows and makes sense? Join us for insight into this challenge. Tammie Wood and Jessica Risney, The Source Management Group

SESSION 2

Rodeo: A "Fair" Experience

Creating and maintaining the ultimate fan and volunteer experience in an everchanging environment. Selena Burgess, Manager, Northwest Washington Fair

SESSION 3

General Safety, including crowd control, severe weather planning, partnering with local safety entities and hiring private security

Guest safety is a top priority for public events, especially fairs, and has many facets to consider when planning an event. We will share how we approach safety plannign and what resources may be available to assist with your planning for events large or small. Andrea Thayer, CFE, WSFA President, Washington State Fair Erin Gurtel, IFMG, Immediate WSFA Past President and Director, Spokane County Interstate Fair

SESSION 4

Super Saturday Super School Session

Fair Entry – Online Entries, How to Train Users and Empower our Superintendents

Mike Seiber, Pierce County 4-H Program Coordinator, WSU Extension Rebecca Martinez, WSFA Director and Fairgrounds

Coordinator, Grant County Fair

3:15-4:20 PM SESSIONS

SESSION 1

Creating Successful Events for Your Community off season. A panel presentation.

Greg Lybeck, CFE, General Manager,

Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days

Jim McKiernan, Director, Grant County Fair Aric Gaither, Fair Manager, Skagit County Fair

SESSION 2

Build a Better Now Workshop

with Keynote Speaker Greg Bennick

In this interactive session, we will have a talk about how we can best explore the future we want and bring it into action. Greg's "Build a Better Now" approach talks about seven strategies that we can use to enhance the moment, build connections with others (think Fair board and service members) and together develop and grow. Attendees will hear ideas about ways to enhance relationships and focus, and we will have fun doing it.

SESSION 3

The ability to make decisions with incomplete information "Do you have FOBO (Fear of Better Options)? Or are you crippled by the anxiety of making the wrong decision, especially with a

PINF ROOM

DESIGN ROOM

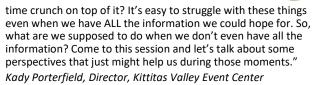
OLYMPIC/GOLD



OAK ROOM

PINE ROOM

PROJECT ROOM



SESSION 4

Idea Swap

OAK ROOM



Creative Sponsorship for your Fair and Fairground Fairs, please bring samples or be prepared to share

how your fair manages this topic.

Erin Gurtel, IFMG, Immediate WSFA Past President and Director, Spokane County Interstate Fair

SESSION 5

Super Saturday Super School Session Judging Systems

4:30 PM WSFA Annual Business Meeting

Blue, Red, White or 1st, 2nd, 3rd — Danish, American or group method of judging; how do you decide? Judging requires basic rules and standards.

Sherry Stovner, Evergreen State Fair

SPRUCE ROOM

DESIGN ROOM



6:30 PM Doors open for Red Carpet Gala SILVER/BRONZE Costume Contest Classic, retro, glam or Hollywood, come dressed to impress and walk the red carpet! We will be celebrating our fairs with their contest awards and wrapping up the 2023 Convention at our Red Carpet Gala. Contest Awards Showcases 10:00 PM Jam Session



WSFA PAST PRESIDENTS

2022 Andrea Thayer 2021 Erin Gurtel 2020 Tom Muchoney 2019 Tom Muchoney 2018 Terry Atchison 2017 Terry Atchison 2016 John Morrison 2015 John Morrison 2014 Rich Hartzell 2013 Rich Hartzell 2012 Paul Nimmo 2011 Val Watson 2010 Jim Baron 2009 George Clary* 2008 Rick Storvick 2007 Bob Reynolds 2006 Yvonne Knuth* 2005 Tom Musser 2004 Mark Campbell 2003 Danny Jones 2002 Rose Waring 2001 E. Lee Graham 2000 Sid Willuweit* 1999 Nancy Ruark 1998 Dan Sharp 1997 Kathy Underwood 1996 Pat Nostrand 1995 Kent Hojem 1994 Ellis Schneider* 1993 Neil Stephens 1992 Daphne Eshom 1991 Fred Blauert 1990 Max Read

WSFA

1989 Rich Waldemar* 1988 Marlyta Deck* 1987 Dean Boss* 1986 Sid Uhinck* 1985 Dick Cochran 1984 Harold Beeman* 1983 Dick Moore 1982 Pete LaFave* 1981 Fred Polinder, Jr.* 1980 Pat (Goodrich) Anderson 1979 Robert Carlson 1978 Karl Marks* 1977 Greg Stewart 1976 Jim Hamilton* 1975 Bill Heaston 1974 Gust Skarberg* 1973 Dean Boss* 1972 Marlyta Deck* 1971 Bill Walck 1970 Keith Marney* 1969 James Hanger 1968 Charles Meenach* 1967 Charles Meenach* 1966 Joseph Smith 1965 John McMurrav 1964 Charles Clements* 1963 Robert Loney 1962 Kenneth Killingsworth* 1961 James Blair* 1960 Paul Creighton* 1959 Donald Clark* 1958 Donald Clark* * DECEASED





Washington State Fairs Association's Lifetime Achievement Award is a recognition of service, dedication and commitment to the Washington State Fair Industry. This annual award is presented each year at the WSFA Convention in October to an individual for distinguished achievement and/or contribution in the Fair Industry.

Prior recipients include:

2022	Terry Atchison Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days
2022	Gale Sobolesky, CFE Washington State Fairs Assn.
2021	Kent Hojem, CFE Washington State Fair
2019	John Morrison Clark County Fair
2018	Greg Stewart, CFECentral Washington State Fair
2017	Kathy Underwood Benton Franklin Fair
2016	Yvonne Knuth Castle Rock Fair
2015	George Clary Benton Franklin Fair



MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Friday, March 15, 2024 Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds 32 Elma-McCleary Road, Elma 98541

SUPER SCHOOL MEETING

Saturday, March 16, 2024 Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds 32 Elma-McCleary Road. Elma 98541

2024 WASHINGTON STATE FAIRS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION Dates will be announced in early 2024. Check our website then for more information.



NOTES



SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

BUTLER AMUSEMENTS, INC. INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS & EXPOSITIONS SPOKANE COUNTY INTERSTATE FAIR WASHINGTON STATE FAIR

FUNTASTIC TRAVELING SHOWS WASHINGTON STATE FAIR FAIR PUBLISHING HOUSE ADMIT ONE PRODUCTS GRANT COUNTY FAIR DAVIS SHOWS NORTHWEST OREGON BEVERAGE SERVICES, CARROLL UNRUH REGALIA MANUFACTURING CONCERT PRODUCTION SERVICES REBECCA MARTINEZ and PAUL NIMMO SANDEY BRANDON **Convention Bags**

Opening Keynote Speaker Opening Keynote Speaker Engaging Communities – A DEI Series Convention Program 2023 WSFA Convention Logo Lanyards Meal Tickets Pens Morning & Trade Show Breaks

WSFA Hospitality Room Contest Awards & Ribbons Sound and Lighting WSFA Website Program Design

TABLE DECORATIONS

EVERGREEN STATE FAIR SPOKANE COUNTY INTERSTATE FAIR KITTITAS COUNTY FAIR GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY FAIR NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON FAIR Thursday Dinner Friday Lunch Friday Dinner Saturday Lunch Saturday Dinner



WSFA TRADE SHOW HOURS

Thursday, October 19 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM Refreshments in the Trade Show Area

Friday, October 20

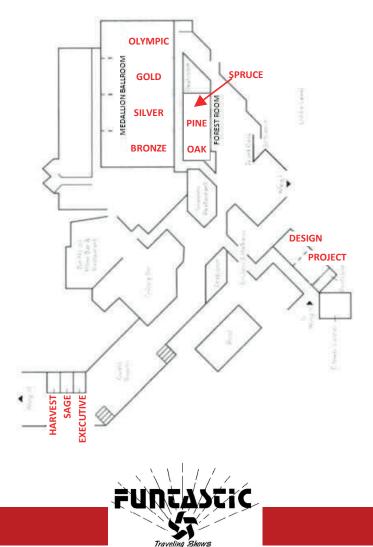
2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Refreshments in the Trade Show Area



Red Lion Hotel & Convention Center

MEETING ROOM FLOOR PLAN



Just Possibly...The World's Finest Carnival.