Greetings, Fellow Federationists:

It is time for the annual National Federation of the Blind of Iowa state convention to be held October 25-October 27, 2019 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Des Moines Northwest, at 4800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, Iowa 50322. This year’s convention will be packed with information and fun! We are honored to have Julie Deden, Director of the Colorado Center for the Blind, serve as our National representative on behalf of President Mark A. Riccobono.

Committees for the 2019 convention:

Nominating committee chair: Bob Ray

Resolutions committee chair: Michael Barber

Audit committee chair: Karen Clayton

Convention coordinator and Convention committee chair: Cindy Ray

We have several open positions on the affiliate board of directors this year. We will be electing two 2 year terms. We also need to fill the position currently held by Tai Tomasi for a 1 year term. Finally, the position of first Vice President is open for a 1 year term. People interested in any of these positions should contact nominating committee chair Bob ray at [rjray@q.com](mailto:rjray@q.com).

Registration information

Once again this year we have online registration and we would prefer registration be done online, but as usual you can still mail in your registration along with your check to: NFBI, P.O. Box 93071, Des Moines, IA 50393. To get the discounted rate of $83 per night at the Holladay Inn, you must register for the convention, and by pre-registering you will help us give a more accurate count to the hotel.

What are the perks for pre-registering for the state convention? The biggest perk is you save $5 off the cost of each food event you attend and the registration fee, plus you won’t have to wait in a longer line when picking up your packet. Don’t delay and miss out on the savings, and pre-register and pay for the convention no later than October 15, 2019. After October 15, 2019 all prices go up by $5.00.

[Click here to submit your convention registration online](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/national-federation-of-the-blind-of-iowa-2019-annual-convention-tickets-74581105093)

You can also paste the following URL in your browser. Please note it does wrap to a second line,

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/national-federation-of-the-blind-of-iowa-2019-annual-convention-tickets-74581105093](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/national-federation-of-the-blind-of-iowa-2019-annual-convention-tickets-74581105093?aff=utm_source%3Deb_email%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3Dnew_event_email&utm_term=eventurl_text)

I have also pasted the convention registration form at the end of this letter.

Hotel information

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Des Moines Northwest, 4800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, Iowa 50322.

Hotel room rates this year will be $83.00 plus tax per night for standard and king-sized rooms.  When reserving your room, please mention the below information:

Group Name:  NFBI National Fed Blind of Iowa

Group Code:  NFB

Reservations Deadline: October 10, 2019

To Reserve:

Call: 515-278-4755 or 800-HOLIDAY (800-465-4329)

Click to:  [www.holidayinn.com/desmoinesia](http://www.holidayinn.com/desmoinesia)  and use the 3-letter code above.

Meetings and events

The Iowa Diabetes Action Network will hold its annual face-to-face meeting from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM on Friday with registration beginning at 12:30 outside the meeting room.  Registration is $5.

The At Large Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Iowa will hold its annual face-to-face meeting at 3:00 p.m., Friday, October 25, 2019. Chapter dues will be collected and they are $5. Registration begins at 2:30 outside the room.

The annual face-to-face meeting of the Iowa Association of Blind Students will be Friday October 25, 2019 from 3:00pm-5:00pm

Their business meeting will begin at 3:00 where they will have dynamic speakers that will help determine what the future of the movement looks like. They hope you can make it and they can’t wait to meet you! Their dues are $5 and will be taken at the door.

Convention registration will be open from 3:00-6:45 p.m. on Friday, October 25, and will resume Saturday, October 26, from 7:30-8:45 a.m.

We are working on a possible technology event for Friday morning, so stay tuned for more details!

A meet and greet reception will take place from 5:15-6:45 on Friday October 25, 2019.  Cost is $25 if purchased by October 15 2019, and $30 if purchased after October 15 2019.

The Resolutions Committee will consider resolutions at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening. Submit resolutions electronically to Chair Michael Barber at [m.barber817@gmail.com](mailto:m.barber817@gmail.com)    by October 19, 2019. You may also bring resolutions in final Braille and written form to the committee meeting as long as there is provided an electronic version by the deadline above.

Friday evening will also have hospitality hosted by the Iowa Association of Blind Students. It promises to be a night of fun you don’t want to miss!

Saturday morning Come to the President’s breakfast from 7:00am- 8:00am - $25 if purchased by October 15, $30 if purchased after that date.

8:00am – 8:45am join the board of directors for the annual face to face board meeting. All are welcome to attend.

9:00am – 12:00pm and 2:00pm – 5:00pm will be our general sessions. You won’t want to miss our National report from Julie Deden, the National Federation of the Blind of Iowa presidential report, Iowa Department for the Blind update from director Emily Wharton, National student report, and much more!

We will have a lunch on Saturday from 12:00-1:45 PM and the cost is $25.00 if purchased by October 15, and $30.00 after that date. This time will be filled with good food, good fellowship, and more!

Saturday evening will be the annual Banquet of the National Federation of the Blind of Iowa. Julie Deden will deliver this year’s banquet address, and our very own Mike Harvey, President of the Des Moines Chapter of the National federation of the Blind of Iowa, will be the Master of Ceremonies. The banquet is $40.00 before October 15th, and $45.00 after that date.

The convention planning committee will be hosting hospitality following the banquet. We hope to see you there!

Sunday, October 27, 2019 – 8:00am-8:45am

Start your Sunday off right with a short morning devotional. All are welcome!

Our annual business session will take place Sunday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Look for more convention information as it becomes available through our various communications channels.

I look forward to greeting you at this year’s National Federation of the Blind of Iowa state convention!

Sincerely,

Scott Van Gorp, President

National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM FOR the 2019

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF IOWA CONVENTION

Complete this form and have it postmarked no later than October 15, 2019 with your check payable to the National Federation of the Blind of Iowa , to: NFBI, P.O. Box 93071, Des Moines, IA 50393.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_\_ STATE:) \_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: (\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred agenda type \_\_\_\_\_Braille \_\_\_\_\_Large print\_\_\_\_\_ electronic

Are you a Parent of a blind child? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_No?

Would you like us to add your email to our tall-corn mailing list automatically? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_no

Are you a student? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

What chapter do you belong to? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please check your age bracket \_\_\_\_\_Under 18 \_\_\_\_\_18-30 \_\_\_\_\_31-50

\_\_\_\_\_51-65 \_\_\_\_\_66+

Please inform us of any food allergies or dietary restrictions as soon as possible so that we can endeavor to meet these requests.

The enclosed check for $\_\_\_.\_\_ covers my following costs: (Check all costs that apply in Column 1 below.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| COST FOR | PAID before October 15, 2019 | PAID after October 15, 2019 |
| \_\_\_Convention Registration | $20 | $25 |
| \_\_\_ Meet and Greet reception Friday night | $25 | $30 |
| \_\_\_Saturday President’s Buffet breakfast | $25 | $30 |
| \_\_\_Saturday Luncheon | $25 | $30 |
| \_\_\_Convention Banquet | $40 | $45 |
| Maximum Total Cost | $135 | $160 |

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_2019