



MPI D/FW

Newsletter



A NOTE FROM TIM

—“—Excellence also means staying ahead of the curve. It requires us to be lifelong learners, agile problem-solvers, and collaborative partners. At MPI Dallas/Fort Worth, we’ve built a community that champions these values. —”—



As we reflect on the excitement of our 47th Annual MPI Dallas/Fort Worth Awards of Excellence, and the incredible energy that radiated from the recent MPI World Education Congress (WEC) in St. Louis, one thing is clear: excellence isn’t just a goal—it’s the standard that drives us forward.

For me, the meetings and events industry has been more than just a career—it has been a journey of continuous learning, relationship-building, and personal fulfillment. With over 25 years in event production and technology, I’ve witnessed firsthand how transformative live experiences can be.

WEC 2025 further reinforced this truth on a global stage. Gathering thousands of meeting professionals from around the world, WEC was a vibrant showcase of innovation, education, and connection. The sessions, keynotes, and networking opportunities were designed to inspire us to rethink how we approach our craft—to leverage technology, embrace diversity, and foster sustainability. Witnessing our MPI DFW members actively participating, presenting, and learning alongside peers reaffirmed the strength of our chapter and the influence we have in shaping the future of our industry.

Excellence also means staying ahead of the curve. It requires us to be lifelong learners, agile problem-solvers, and collaborative partners. At MPI Dallas/Fort Worth, we've built a community that champions these values. Through our educational programs, networking events, and meaningful collaborations, we equip ourselves not just to meet expectations, but to exceed them.

Looking forward, I encourage each of you to take inspiration from our Awards winners and from the global insights shared at WEC. Let's challenge ourselves to bring that same energy, creativity, and professionalism to every project we touch. Together, we have the power to elevate our industry, empower our colleagues, and create experiences that leave lasting impact.

Thank you for being part of this exceptional chapter. Your commitment to excellence is what makes MPI DFW a leader—not just locally, but on the world stage.

Here's to continuing our journey of growth, innovation, and above all, excellence.

See you at our upcoming events, where we will keep pushing the boundaries of what's possible—together.

**Tim Altbaum, CMP, CMM
President, MPI DFW Chapter
CEO, Vario Productions**

So, how are we doing?

Really! We want to know.



MPI Membership & Chapter Satisfaction Survey

We need your
HELP!

This is a reminder that there are two days left to complete the Membership and Chapter Satisfaction Survey. By spending just 5-10 minutes to complete this survey, you'll help us understand how we can enhance the value we deliver to you and our community..

If you have already completed the survey, I thank you for your participation and your valuable feedback. If you have not yet completed the survey, this is your opportunity to help us improve your membership experience! **The survey will close August 5 at 11:59pm CDT**

TAKE THE SURVEY

Welcome

A warm welcome to our newest members
(Apr - Jun 2025)

Jennifer Andrews
Stephanie Attaway
Antonio Berrios
Andy Blunt
Randi Brown
Karey Choy
Ophelia Dasset
Sandy Dreger
Lynne Duncan
Avery Evans
Shayna Fears
Conor Foster
Alison Harik

Vanessa Hatcher
Lisa Hott
Andrea Johnson
Kevin Jost
Kimberly Koniecki
Jay Lanchbury
Melissa Majors
Dena Malasek
Caroline Moffitt
Rubem Nagy
Cris Noguera
Laura Parker
Eddie Parker

Ivan Perez
Lily Salinas
Curtis Smith
Natalie Storrs
Donna Thomas
Casey Watkins
Cheryl Weis
Peter Werner
Diana Younts

*We hope to see
you at our next
Maximize Your
Membership
Session*



47th Chapter Awards of Excellence Gala

A Night Among the Stars

June | 26 | 2025

6:00pm – 7:00pm

Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction

7:00pm – 9:30pm

Awards & Dinner

Hall of Lights

4421 Charles St. Carrollton, TX 75010



DALLAS/
FORT WORTH
CHAPTER





47th Gala & Awards of Excellence

Congratulations 2025 MPI D/FW Awards of Excellence Recipients!

Planner of the Year - Cheryl Batzing

Supplier of the Year - Jessica Rodgers

Rising Star of the Year - Marilyn Ellis

Volunteer of the Year - Joshua Rios, HMCC

Mentor - Mentee Team of the Year - Shakara Shelton and Jennifer Kachinsky | Paige Mejia and Pamela Garges

Committee of the Year - Awards of Excellence Gala 2024

Special Event of the Year - Awards of Excellence Gala 2024

Venue of the Year - The Crescent Hotel, Fort Worth

Strategic Partner of the Year - Frisco Printing & Graphics Center

Hall of Honor Inductee - Sally Gibbons (Posthumously) & Steve Kemble

President's Award - Zhanna Atherton

Program of the Year - Fall in Fort Worth



Hall of Honor



Sally Gibbons-Slaterry
Posthumous Award



Steve Kemble

2025 Inductees









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47th Gala & Awards of Excellence

Thank You to Our Sponsors



HALL OF LIGHTS

MODERN WEDDING
VENUE

Access



Aura
by Scott Michaels

aquila
LODGING



LA TAVOLA
FINE LINEN RENTAL

BLUE FIRE
TOTAL CATERING



VISIT
seattle
THE OFFICIAL RESOURCE for MEETINGS & CONVENTIONS



cvent



OMNI BARTON CREEK

UPCOMING EVENTS

[CLICK TO VISIT OUR EVENT PAGE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFO](#)

SAVE
the
DATE

AUGUSTS 14, 2025

CHAPTER EXPERIENCE

REGISTER HERE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

FUNDRAISING EVENT

NOVEMBER 13, 2025

FALL IN FORT WORTH
CHAPTER EXPERIENCE

23rd CMM & CMP Breakfast

04.24.2025

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Hotel Vin

215 E Dallas Rd, Grapevine, TX 76051

Colleen Rickenbacher
Leadership Award
2025 Recipient



Cori Dossett, CMP Fellow, CEM, CITP

Conferences Designed

CMP & CMM Recognition Breakfast



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CMP & CMM Recognition Breakfast

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FRISCO PRINTING
& Graphics Center



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IRVING
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**DALLAS/
FORT WORTH**
CHAPTER



**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION
& MEMBER MIXER**

GROUP DYNAMIX

1100 VENTURE CT. #120
CARROLLTON, TX 75006

5:30 - 7:30PM

22
MAY

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION & MEMBER MIXER

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

We had a wonderful time, networking, and celebrating our volunteers at our May event held at Group Dynamix. Thank you to all of our amazing sponsors for your help in hosting another memorable event! Please think of them while planning your events:





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R I S T I E S P H O T O G R A P



JOIN THE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

MPI DFW would like to invite you to join the Mentorship program. Build a One-On-One relationship allowing you to learn from another industry professional and helping you create a path to new skills, knowledge transfer, and networking.



REGISTER TODAY!
APPLICATIONS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 1ST



Seeking **Ambassadors** for our 25 new MPI D/FW members so far this year!

At MPI, fostering a sense of belonging is at the heart of everything we do. Our Member Ambassador Program is designed to help new members navigate and thrive in our dynamic learning and networking environment during the initial first 3 months of membership!

As an ambassador, you'll play a key role in welcoming and guiding new faces, ensuring they feel right at home. Ready to make an impact? Sign up today!

[JOIN US NOW](#)



Member Care Corner

MAXIMIZE YOUR MEMBERSHIP GROUP

Whether you're new to MPI D/FW or a longtime supporter, there's no better time to get involved and inspired. Join us at our August Chapter Experience on August 14 for two special moments:

Membership Anniversary Pinning Ceremony

We'll be honoring members celebrating 5 to 45 years of dedication to our chapter. Come cheer on your peers and celebrate the legacy and future of MPI D/FW!

Maximize Your Membership

New to MPI? Ready to take your involvement to the next level? Don't miss the opportunity to connect, learn, and discover how to make the most of your membership with tips, tools, and ways to engage—from events to committees and beyond.

This is your chance to build community, celebrate milestones, and grow your MPI journey.

We can't wait to see you there!



MPI D/FW Chapter invites you to...



PARTYFEST

extravaganza 2025

"Where Great Parties & Events Begin..."

Be Our Guest at Partyfest

Date: **August 27th, 2025**

Time: **11:00am - 4:00pm**

Place: **Dallas Market Hall**

Phone: **214 652-4300**

**COMP
VIP
PASS**

Please register on-line using promo code **PF25** to attend this "invitation only" event. Come meet some of the top party & event suppliers & planners in the D/FW metroplex.

www.ApplauseProductions.com

Proudly Sponsored by... Visit Dallas, MPI D/FW Chapter, Texas Meetings + Events, NACE-DFW, TxACOM, ILEA Dallas Chapter, The Society of Wedding Professionals, Chic Network, Texas Live Events Coalition, Cadence Studios, Roadrunner Charters, Trinity Event Staffing, Superior Expo Services

CHAPTER CSR

January – December 2025

PACT: Protect All Children from Trafficking (PACT)



PACT is a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering sustainable change through climate action and social equity. Their mission is to empower communities and create lasting environmental impact by driving innovative solutions to address pressing global challenges. PACT focuses on tackling climate change, protecting natural resources, and promoting social justice, particularly in underserved communities. Through collaboration and grassroots initiatives, PACT strives to build a more equitable and sustainable future for all. Learn more about their efforts and get involved at PACT's website.

PACT's Vision: To build a world in which no child is bought, sold, or used for sex.

PACT's Mission: We protect every child's right to grow up free from child sexual exploitation and trafficking through education, legislative advocacy and partnership.

To learn more about this PACT, please visit their website where you will find resources and Free Online Training!

They are also always accepting DONATIONS to help keep their organization running smoothly. If you do choose to donate, please add a comment sharing how you learned about them through the MPI DFW Chapter.

Thank you for your support!

For more information or to get involved, contact the VP of Leadership - vpleadership@mpidfw.org.

Support your MPI D/FW Chapter and
Become a Strategic Partner Today!
[Click Here](#) to Learn How.



Sponsorship Opportunities



VOLUNTEER

Build relationships. Get the most out of your membership. Give back.
Make it happen.

What does volunteering entail?

What does volunteering entail? It can mean anything you want it to mean. 1 hour a week, 1 hour a month, chairing a committee, just being on a committee, sending a few emails, making a few phone calls.

[Click here to learn more!](#)



Inspired spaces for
INSPIRING EVENTS.

OMNI BARTON
CREEK



Inspired spaces for INSPIRING EVENTS.

Discover the true essence of Texas at Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa, nestled among the rolling hills of the Texas Hill Country. Immerse yourself in the breathtaking panoramic views surrounding this serene property, from the welcoming guest rooms to the pool decks and event spaces.

With over 76,000 square feet of flexible meeting and event space, Omni Barton Creek offers a range of options to accommodate any gathering. Whether you prefer the elegance of our ballrooms or the open-air ambiance of our expansive lawns, you can create a memorable event that seamlessly blends with the natural beauty of the landscape. Immerse yourself in the splendor of the rolling terrain.

OMNI BARTON
CREEK



2025

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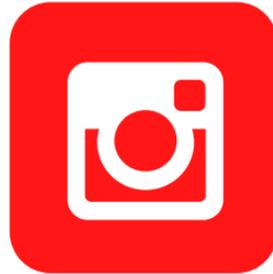
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