

MPI
Overall Excellence
 CHAPTER AWARD

MPI Global presents MPISSN with Overall Excellence Chapter Award
Tops across the U.S. and Canada in surpassing operational standards and driving the vision and mission of the association



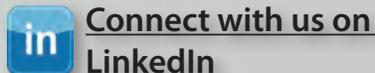
CHEERS to MPISSN!

MPI Global presented annual awards in October, recognizing chapters in the U.S. and Canada for their success. MPISSN received the top award for Overall Excellence having the highest point total of all 52 chapters. Based upon monthly metrics in 2016-2017, and a year-end performance evaluation last summer, MPISSN's tally exceeded expectations, and placed the chapter in "high performance" range in every category. Congratulations to those who have served in leadership and have volunteered over the past several years as it has taken hard work, commitment to strategic planning and structure, and persistent momentum to achieve this notable award. With special thanks to Felicia Price CMP, MPISSN chapter president 2016-2017 and her team for guiding MPISSN to this new height.



Photo(s) courtesy of Steve Pate-Newberry, SPN Photography.

Read more about this chapter accomplishment in my "Message from the President" beginning on page 2!
Lynda Sagar
 MPISSN Chapter President
 2017-2018





SACRAMENTO/ SIERRA NEVADA

CHAPTER

CONNECTS

Meeting Professionals International Sacramento/Sierra Nevada Chapter shapes and defines the meeting and event industry in the greater Sacramento/Sierra Nevada region.

Next Editorial and Advertising Deadline:

Spring *Connects* - February 23, 2018

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

LYNDA SAGAR

Are we really half way thru the 2017-2018 year? How is even possible? We have a lot to be proud of because it has been full of **EXCITEMENT, EDUCATION, and LEADING THE FUTURE.** Our membership is strong, and volunteers are enjoying themselves.

EXCITEMENT

You might have heard the exciting news, or attended our big reveal and champagne toast during the November education luncheon at the Lions Gate Hotel. Out of 52 MPI Chapters across the nation and Canada, MPI Sacramento/Sierra Nevada Chapter earned MPI Global's top award for chapter performance; the Overall Excellence Chapter Award.



MPISSN's chapter performance is measured on operational standards as well as its ability to drive the vision and mission of the association.

MPISSN achieved "high performing" in all categories!

Scoring occurred in the following areas:

- Membership Satisfaction & Engagement Services (recruitment, retention and net member growth)
- Leadership (including volunteer ratio and succession planning)
- Administration & Financial Practices (compliance, governance, net profit and reserves)
- Educational offerings (content satisfaction and offerings)
- Communications (community presence, brand compliant)



This award represents the commitment and hard work of our volunteers over many years, and on behalf of the board and all are members, we are grateful to MPI and honored to be recognized in this way.

The chapter worked diligently over the past several years to strengthen every aspect of what we do:

- Membership satisfaction
- Quality education
- Transparent communications
- A solid financial position

MPISSN's success is a direct result of volunteers giving consistent attention to the things that matter most AND having fun while we were doing that!

Ours friendships are genuine, and we care about delivering a meaningful experience to our membership – **that is what matter's most.** Plus, balance is key. We're all volunteers with busy professional lives, family and friends, so

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

we try not to lose sight of helping each other, and the bigger purpose of MPISSN.

MPISSN's leadership teams always consist of a great mix of seasoned professionals, and new talent, including both meeting planners and suppliers. This helps everyone gain perspective as we move forward each year.

Our growing market is changing all the time and the fact that our membership includes professionals from government, associations, corporate and education – as well as students – means we enjoy a dynamic setting where we're learning from each other.

A prime example of this exchange exists in two stellar members who share their knowledge, experience and friendship generously with the chapter. **Congratulations to our Planner of the Year, Paula Currie CMP, and Supplier of the Year, Lauren Siring CMP! (See page 4)**

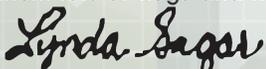
EDUCATION

MPISSN continues to offer education that you're looking forward to based upon survey responses. From October's Coffee, Cocktails and Content open discussion about **Burning Topics** to the November education luncheon panel addressing your next professional development milestones, MPISSN listens to your requests. For those November luncheon attendees, *Have you named your inner critic yet?* MPISSN's partnership with CalSAE at Seasonal Spectacular brought in Michael Dominguez of MGM Resorts International speaking on industry trends, and around the corner in February, we will offer our popular Meeting Planner Boot Camp Basics, as well as a focused social media presentation at our February education luncheon.

LEADING THE FUTURE

We are excited to recognize the newly formed MPI Student Club. MPI initiated the student club program in an effort to connect with the future leaders in the meetings and events industry. Our chapter will provide students the opportunity to network with local industry professionals, further their education, and develop connections with potential employers.

I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and please hold your dear ones close, and give them lots of hugs and kisses. Even your furbabies.



Lynda Sagar, 2017-2018 MPISSN President



Thinking about a leadership position with MPISSN?

MPISSN's nominating committee is accepting nominations for officers and directors for the board of directors. If you would like to nominate someone, or if you have aspirations for leadership yourself, and would like to self-nominate, visit the Members Only pages on MPISSN's website for eligibility criteria and instructions.

Nominations are open through Jan. 5, 2018.

Now's the time to encourage colleagues and friends to join MPISSN!

If you have friends or colleagues who have been waiting, wait no more! For a limited time (until Dec. 31, 2017), MPI is offering \$100 off new memberships! Encourage them to join today and enjoy the benefits!

Visit <https://www.mpiweb.org/membership/join>

Select the "Preferred" or "Premier" membership category to ensure chapter affiliation with MPISSN! Then, just enter code "Holiday17" at checkout. For any questions, email feedback@mpiweb.org JOIN NOW!



Honoring

Supplier of the year

Lauren Siring, CMP
Monterey County CVB

and

Planner of the year

Paula Currie, CMP
Association of CA Water Agencies



MPISSN's annual presentation of the Planner of the Year and Supplier of the Year awards occurred on November 14, 2017 at the November Education Luncheon.



Photo(s) courtesy of Steve Pate-Newberry, SPN Photography.

MPISSN awarded Lauren Siring CMP the Supplier of the Year Award! Lauren is the Regional Sales Executive for Monterey County CVB and has been a member for 16 consecutive years and a chairperson for the past two years leading Membership Retention. She is thorough and exacting in her commitment, always following through and finding volunteers. She attends local MPISSN meeting and events regularly despite her Monterey address. She also has recruited several new members from her region to join MPISSN. She has created a "Monterey presence" in Sacramento, often bringing a cadre of 10 or more suppliers from the Monterey area to MPISSN programs, educating the membership about options and features there. Lauren has also spearheaded ongoing sponsorships of the chapter's annual crab feed, and has recently become an Emerald Key Partner. She is committed to the local industry and genuinely supports MPISSN.

MPISSN awarded Paula Currie, CMP, the Planner of the Year Award! Paula is the Director of Business Development and Events for the Association of California Water Agencies and has been a member of MPISSN for eight consecutive years. She volunteers consistently, always stepping up to help. In 2015, Paula chaired the annual event which commemorated MPISSN's 30th anniversary. She then accepted a board appointment as Director of Special Events and now is serving in her second year in this role. Overseeing MPISSN's significant events (crab feed, trade show and annual event) she has helped to ensure the chapter's fundraising goals. She powers through all the moving parts, defining tasks, managing details and mentoring volunteers. She also has been an advocate for membership bringing new members to our fold! Paula always has a great attitude and is well-regarded in her professional commitment to ACWA. Paula was surprised by her husband, daughters and ACWA colleagues at the presentation!

Volunteers of the Quarter by Debra Kurtti

Cynthia DeOliver, *CMP* and Gaby Fonseca

Wow, what a great year! Incredible education and great networking and discussion at Coffee, Cocktail and Content and we have to thank Cynthia DeOliver. Also, Gaby Fonseca secured The Sawyer Hotel, the new Kimpton property for our Tradeshow and education next April which also will commemorate Global Meetings Industry Day - Gaby you ROCK!

We want to thank both Cynthia and Gaby as our Volunteers of the Quarter. Thank you for all you do! **Deb Kurtti**

Cynthia DeOliver, *CMP*



How long have you been a member of MPISSN? I originally joined in 1995 but had to pause my membership. However, this year I received a five year pin. Yay!

What do you love about MPISSN? These are my people! I found kindred spirits at MPISSN. They spoke my language and had some of my same experiences. I knew I was home. I also knew I found my career.

Why do you volunteer?

It's a chance to give back, learn and raise your professional game. I'm definitely in learning-mode and fortunately I have amazing support (big props to Rachel and Lynette).

What made you volunteer for Director of Education? (Um, Jeff Dougherty) I was looking for a chance to connect with my peers in a meaningful way. Planning education for my peers is unexpected, exciting and real. Though challenging, it renewed my appreciation for our profession.

Do you have a mentor? Who and how do they inspire you? A former manager who inherited my department and had tracked my efforts, and took me under her wing. She challenged me to go even further than I had before and that's where the war was set for me. Since then, I've always been inspired by the "underdog." Anyone who had to stand up for themselves or others in dire situations, that's powerful.

What do you like to do for fun? Anything outdoors, listen to music, eat great food, a good book and real friends.

Fun Facts, Favorite or Loves

- Ice Cream – Hagen Das Rocky Road is the best
- Movies – Working Girl and Moonstruck
- Books – The Goldfinch and Team of Rivals
- Song – A lovely day by Bill Withers
- Music Artist – Ice Cube (brought me through tough times)
- Dream Vacation – Italy: wine, pasta, repeat...

Gaby Fonseca

How long have you worked at the Sheraton Grand?

7.5 Years

What is your position? Sales Manager for Small Groups (10 to 75 peak rooms). I handle ALL market segments including corporate, associations, sports, entertainment, SMERF, etc. I also handle the upcoming Digital Gaming market which I really love and look forward to seeing it grow in our great city.

How long have you been a member of MPISSN? 2 years

What do you love about MPISSN? The diversity of people and employers involved with MPI and how we all gain valuable knowledge from each other.

Why do you volunteer? I care about our core values, plus I get to network while helping out.

What made you volunteer to be co-chair of the tradeshow? Learning opportunity. (by the way – Gaby was co-chair of the tradeshow last year too!)

Do you have a mentor? Who and how do they inspire you? Lynda Sagar has been my mentor since day 1. She encourages me to always do my very best at work, to be confident and grateful... and to always breathe when things get a little hectic in my world.

Fun Facts, Favorite or Loves

- Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Trivia Club for 5 years
- Video and board game aficionado
- Sommelier Level 1 and studying for Lv 2 (LOVE all SPARKLING and Rosés)
- Spanish Literature and Grammar professor for many years in Puerto Rico before working full time in hotels
- I am a Polyglot! Fluent in Spanish, French, English, basic German, and now learning Italian.
- Ice Cream – Sweet Cinnamon with Chunks of Oatmeal Cookies and Fudge
- Movie – Labyrinth (1986)
- Book – The Alchemist, Paulo Coelho
- Song – Reach, Gloria Estefan
- Music Artist – Laura Pausini
- Vacation Destination/Dream Vacation – Vieux-Québec/Norwegian Fjords/Cold climate destinations!

What do you like to do for fun? See fun facts... also addicted to paint or plant nights and all wine tastings.



November education panelists open up dialogue:

professional development, career milestone goals, opportunity and you



"I attended my first MPISSN Educational Luncheon and found it to be very worthwhile. The subject was applicable to both my personal and professional life. The content was presented by an impressively knowledgeable panel ... very engaging with the attendees. I really enjoyed the level of professionalism and honesty of the panelists paired with their ability to provide easy and useful tools to help in the advancement of my personal and career goals."

*Jennifer Fontana
Industry Relations & Group Coordinator
Redding Convention & Visitors Bureau*

MPISSN presented **Professional Development Roundtable: What's your next milestone?** on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at the Lions Gate Hotel in McClellan, California.

The luncheon education program brought together five panelists to help meeting professionals navigate a sea of options and opportunities related to professional development, and career goals. Sharing the pros and cons of making moves and ushering change in one's professional life, attendees listened to real-life experiences and insights offered up as examples.

MPISSN Director of Education and program organizer Cynthia DeOliver, CMP, commented, "Our roundtable discussion engaged all five panel members with one another and with the audience. We were able to provide a broad overview of the transitional steps a meeting professional might take, to find a career path that they consider meaningful and that could set them apart from their peers."

Moderator Amy Wister maintained the lively interaction, springboarding conversation from her own success as a businesswoman. As founder and CEO of The Stylist Online, she takes her passion for her work and translates into helping others find their path.



Similarly, Sheri Graciano, Human Resources Manager for Visit Sacramento relishes the chance to coach and assist individuals who seek to identify their strengths. However, as a Certified Professional Life Coach, she also knows what soft skills may need to be developed in today's marketplace. Jennifer Flohr, CMP, a long-time planner and Senior Vice President for California Hotel and Lodging Association offered insights about a steady course; climbing, learning, promoting and all the while ensuring a balanced commitment to your personal needs and values.



Panelists from left to right:
 Marie Cicogni,
 Sheri Graciano,
 Jennifer Flohr, CMP,
 Amy Wister, and
 Christina Hake, CMP.

Marie Cicogni, sales manager for Holiday Inn Sacramento - Downtown Arena gave perspective as a supplier and a planner having experience in both worlds. Christina Hake, CMP, recently made her own career move. Leaving the comfort of a long-held position, she ventured into her new role as Chief Solutions Officer for Avery Murphy LLC.

Participants appreciated the breadth of experiences and many

could begin to see the importance of personally preparing for a changing job market even if a career move isn't projected in the near term. A key consideration for all — *and possibly quite eye-opening* — was the need to thoughtfully think through the steps to take *far before* making a transition whether inside or outside of your current role, profession or industry.

Change can be difficult. Career

and professional-life changes can be intimidating and often avoided altogether because of an inability to fully engage the desire to implement change. The panelists' goals aimed at preventing career "stalls" and helping attendees foster a mindset of positive growth and development.

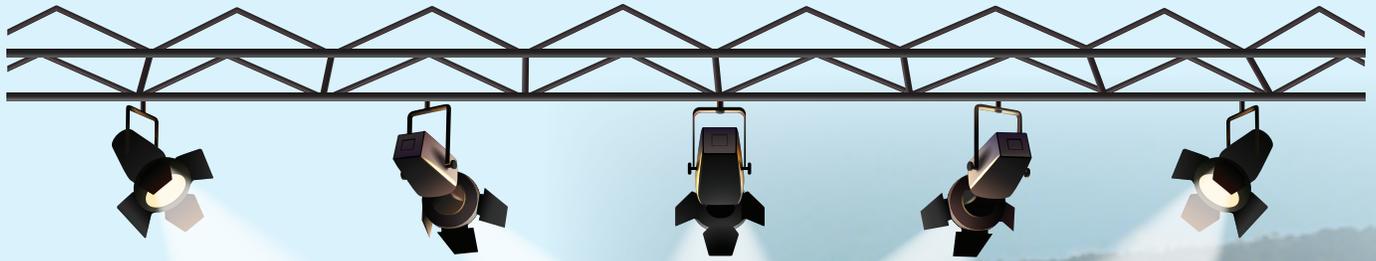
Photo(s) courtesy of Steve Pate-Newberry, SPN Photography.

Thank you to our host!



McClellan Hospitality director of catering Kelly Rocha shares information about their offerings and event space at Lions Gate Hotel. Over and above a hosted champagne toast, McClellan Hospitality prepared a beautiful setting with custom floral, and a delicious menu of pumpkin soup, braised short ribs with a red wine demi over polenta, and carnival cauliflower. Tres Leche layered cheesecake completed the meal.

SPONSORSHIP SPOTLIGHT



MONTEREY

Inspired moments in meetings.®

MeetInMonterey.com

Monterey County on California's Central Coast is famous for its stunning, natural beauty. The dramatic coastline and bay views, plus world-class amenities and attractions for every budget are reasons to call Monterey the perfect setting for a memorable and inspiring meeting. Monterey offers a diversity of extraordinary spaces and charming places, from conference center hotels to lodges, bed and breakfasts, waterfront boutique properties and vineyard venues.

All year long, there are events and special activities for visitors to enjoy. Festivals abound and any day of the week can include wine tasting, adventure tours, horseback riding on the beach, hikes in the redwoods, new culinary experiences – the list is as endless as the destination's beauty. To help with your tough choices and practical needs, the Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau team also offers the latest

**Monterey County CVB
generously sponsored
MPISSN's November
Education Luncheon**

news, local expertise and facility updates to save you research time and they will help create a customized, incredible experience for your attendees.

Getting to Monterey is easy with over 500 direct and one-stop flights from most major US and many international cities. Located just four miles west of downtown Monterey, the Monterey Regional Airport provides regular service to and from San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Phoenix and Las Vegas. Monterey is 119 miles south of San Francisco and 318 miles north of Los Angeles.

MeetInMonterey.com

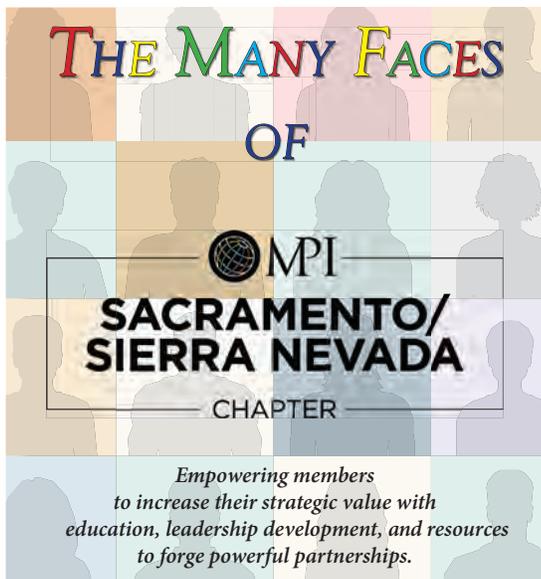


See you at Seasonal!
Visit MPISSN at Booth #242



SOLUTIONS • KNOWLEDGE • ENGAGEMENT • COMMUNITY

Come and see
The Many Faces of MPISSN



Top 3 Reasons to Pursue your CMP Designation in 2018

By Marcia Durst, CMP

- There's a chapter study group starting up in January. The group is free to chapter members and is a great way to get organized with your study materials, stay motivated and on track, and make new industry connections.
- Make more moolah. *Convene Magazine's*, May 2016 Salary Survey states that CMPs make 11 percent more than non-certified industry professionals.
- The CMP designation represents THE standard of excellence in the meetings profession.

Looking for more information on the Events Industry Council CMP program? Visit eventscouncil.org.

The 2018 chapter study group will kick off with a January orientation and will meet bimonthly February – May.

Email Marcia Durst, CMP at Marcia@DurstEvents.com or Heather Tanfani, CMP at ht@eventswebpage.com to be added to the group mailing list for updates.

Planning to attend WEC in Indianapolis?
Take advantage of this holiday special!
\$100 off registration
Valid through January 1, 2018

During the month of December MPI is offering a holiday special of \$100 off registration to WEC 2018. Give yourself the gift of education and networking to grow your career next year. Happy Holidays and we hope to see you in Indy!

Visit

www.mpiweb.org/events/wec-2018/home
to register.



Save the Date!

Tuesday, February 20, 2018



Boot Camp Basics: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Meeting Planner Boot Camp is a fast-paced introduction to industry basics that every new or aspiring planner should know. Sessions are led by industry pros with local, national and international experience.

Who Should Attend?

- Meeting & Event Planners New to the Industry
- Those Who Handle Meeting Coordination as Part of Their Job Duties
- Anyone Interested in Breaking into the Field

Don't miss out on the opportunity to enhance your meeting and event planning knowledge.

**Space is limited.
Registration opens
January 2018 at
www.mpissn.org**

Agenda

- 8:30 am Check-In
9:00 a.m. -Noon
- Budgeting
 - Contracts
 - Requests for Proposals & Room Block Management

*Lunch with Members of MPI
Sacramento/Sierra Nevada
Social Media for Events
Speaker*

- 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Conducting Site Inspections
 - Venue Planning
 - Audio Visual
 - Food & Beverage Planning

*Registration
opens soon!*

*Generously
sponsored by:*

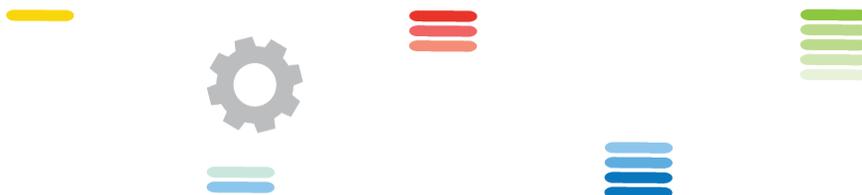


Our host venue:



Pricing

- \$99 ➔ through February 1
- \$114 ➔ February 2-11
- \$129 ➔ February 12-16



Save the Date!
Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Education Luncheon Program:
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



*Leveraging
the Power of
Social Media*

Make it work for you!
And let expert Vanessa Errecarte
show you how!

Vanessa holds a Master's Degree and an M.B.A, and is the Founder/CEO, Erreco Strategies, a Management and Marketing Consulting firm. Her experience with social media and digital marketing gives participants the drill down they need to fully maximize their social media initiatives. This session will give you new insights and fresh ideas on how to make social media work for you!



Objectives:

- Refine your social media skills to get conversions
- Predict ROI (end event attendance)
- Learn the best channels for your objectives, and
- Learn how to effectively target your desired audience

*Registration
opens soon!*

*Generously
sponsored by:*



Our host venue:



**HYATT
REGENCY®**
SACRAMENTO

Raffle benefits MPISN's
2017-2018 Charity





PRESENTED BY MPI SACRAMENTO/SIERRA NEVADA

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES!

Lesson's learned from the Sonoma County Fires

Join MPI members from Sonoma County Tourism as they talk about the recent fires that destroyed their area. Learn about how the hotels reacted, what they learned and what they can teach us about disaster preparedness.

Thursday, January 25, 2018

4:00 p.m.

Join us at

The Red Rabbit

2718 J St. ♦ Sacramento ♦ 95816



Plan to attend!

RSVP to Lynette@mpissn.org

WHAT IS COFFEE, COCKTAILS & CONTENT?

A **FREE** informal gathering which includes interactive facilitated discussion about timely, useful topics for the ever-learning meeting professional.

Held at various locations, three times per year. No host coffee, cocktails and bites.

October 24 CCC Recap *Burning Topics of the Moment* by Rachel Hickerson

October 24 kicked off the first Coffee, Cocktails and Content for the 2017-2018 term! Over 20 planners and suppliers stopped by *Sauced* in downtown Sacramento to discuss their burning questions. Much of the discussion focused on some of the new items that planners are starting to see on their hotel contracts and how they can work through them. Having MPISSN's supplier members in attendance helped guide the planners through understanding these questions and how they can work in partnership with their hotels going forward.

Items discussed included higher deposits, noise issues and planner points being a concession. The event was well received, with many attendees appreciating the open dialogue and the opportunity to understand both sides of the discussion.

The next CCC is schedule for January 25, 2018 at the Red Rabbit in Midtown Sacramento. Join our industry partners from the Sonoma region as they walk us through how they handled the recent fires that devastated their region, and help attendees understand how they can be prepared for disaster.

Don't Miss This Annual Tradition!
Join MPISSN on Wednesday, February 7, 2018
for its Crab Feed!



Registration opens soon online at www.mpissn.org

The Cascadia Educational Conference is a joint regional conference for the Oregon and Washington State MPI chapters.

We're pleased to welcome them to MPISSN-land where they will convene at the Peppermill Resort in Reno, Nevada on March 4-6, 2018.

For more information, visit www.mpicascadia.com



Sincere thanks to
Visit Santa Clara and Marriott Santa Clara,
hosts for MPISSN's Annual Board Retreat
next April!





Thinking about getting involved as a committee chair or co-chair next year?
Contact Lynda.Sagar@sheraton.com for more information.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW AND AFFILIATE MEMBERS

2017-2018 MPISSN BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Lynda Sagar, President
Open, President-Elect
Felicia Price, CMP, Immediate Past President
Rachel Hickerson, VP Education & Events
Marie Cicogni, VP Finance
Lauren Pontier, VP Communications
Lu-Lu Ramos, VP Membership
Cynthia DeOliver, Director of Education
Paula Currie, CMP, Director of Events
Christina Hake, CMP, Director of Strategic Alliance
Jessica Counts, Director of PR and Communications
Kelly Rocha, Director of Recruitment & Retention

Laurianne Balabat
Student

Christina Bauders
CA Independent Oil Marketers Assoc.

Victoria Cheung
Student

Selen Dogruoz
The Westin St Francis Hotel

Christine Feenstra
California Head Start Association

Emily Garske
Student

Patrick Kozitza
Student

Steve Pate-Newberry
SPN Photography/Videography

Nicole Silva
Student

Kyle Wakeland
Student

YOUR 2017-2018 MPISSN COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Michelle Avery - Sponsorships Chair
Karalee Adams - Awards Chair
Karina Barney - Member Recruitment Chair
Veronica Chinn, CMP - Trade Show Co-Chair
Katrina Duncan, CMP - Community Outreach Chair
Marques Davison - Advertising Chair
Jeff Dougherty - Crab Feed Co-Chair
Marcia Durst, CMP - Professional Development Co-Chair
Gaby Fonseca - Trade Show Co-Chair
Pending - Social Media Chair
Jenn Iliff - Graphics Chair
Barbara Mattox - Annual Event Chair
Sulema Peterson - Publications Chair
Amy Orr - Website Chair
Megan Robinson - Special Events Chair
Terri Schrader, CMP - Audit Chair
Lauren Siring - Member Retention Chair
Heather Tanfani, CMP - Professional Development Co-Chair
Leslie Whitesel - Crab Feed Co-Chair

New MPI Student Club!

MPISSN is pleased to share news of the establishment of an MPI Student Club at Sacramento State University. We welcome their affiliation with MPISSN and look forward to a growing student membership. Please welcome our student members and say "hello" at upcoming programs!

IN THE KNOW

In the Know

by Jeff Dougherty, Visit Sacramento

Travel Industry

Airlines/Airports

Southwest Airlines recently announced its intention to launch an application process for Federal Aviation Administration authorization for extended operations (ETOPS) following plans to begin service, to Hawaii in 2018. Service details will be announced at a later date. Travel Industry Wire, 10/12/17

FUN FACT: If you are an Xbox fan, this may be just the thing for you. Microsoft's Xbox recently opened a Stay N' Play venue in Sydney, Australia – a pop-up venue that allows gamers to play all night long. Upon signing in with a gamertag, gamers can choose between four suites featuring a full selection of Xbox One X enhanced games, as well as 4K televisions and Dolby Atmos-enabled headsets. There is also a concierge available to bring guests games as well as Xbox-branded pajamas to sleep in and take home. The pop-up is to promote the release of the newest Xbox game station, Xbox One X. Mashable, 10/24/17

Our Neck of the Woods

Events

Forbes.com recently recognized Sacramento's Wide Open Walls mural event as one of the country's top urban mural festivals. Sacramento finds itself in good company with festivals from Miami, Houston and Las Vegas being featured as well. The article states that the Sacramento event is "festive" and points out the street performers, food trucks and Second Saturday block party associated with the festival. Forbes.com, 10/30/17

Hotels

A Rocklin-based investment group is seeking permits to build a retail center with a 120-room hotel in Natomas. The hotel is the seventh hotel proposal for the area just north of downtown Sacramento. The shopping center and hotel property will reside on Duckhorn Drive, just west of Interstate 5 at Arena Boulevard. No brand or reservation system affiliation has been announced yet. SBJ, 10/18/17

Transportation

A new downtown trolley service will soon launch in Sacramento. The Elephant Train – reminiscent of the old Stockton Boulevard. State Fair trolley, plans to shuttle

people around downtown and Old Sacramento beginning this November. Bill Taylor – founder of Willie's Burger chain – and his son Greg recently bought the open-air trolley bus and are seeking funding, partnerships and permits to run the trolley on a circuit that includes downtown hotels, the California State Railroad Museum, the California Automobile Museum, the Crocker Art Museum, the state Capitol, state offices and the waterfront. The duo's long-term goal is to run a fleet of six trolley cars that will complement the modern streetcar system that the city plans to build in the next few years. Sacramento Bee, 10/9/2017

Venues

A historic building in Old Sacramento may soon be operating as an event center that will host banquets, performances and even house a cigar lounge. The Old Sacramento Event & Conference Center is at 910 Second St. and includes rooms in the basement and second floor, and has an outdoor patio. Manager Tanya Smith is currently awaiting a liquor license and Planning Commission approval for the venue, which will not be opened to the public, but reserved for private group meetings and private parties, weddings, receptions and more. The center has the space to accommodate up to 225 guests in theater seating. SBJ, 10/23/17

Our Friends

Monterey

The Portola Hotel & Spa, located adjacent to the Monterey Conference Center, has undergone a \$10 million renovation that included all 379 guestrooms. The property's lobby, lobby bar and restaurant were also renovated. SF Travel, October 2017

Reno

A new hotel has opened in downtown Reno, and this one does not offer gaming or permit smoking. The Plaza Club Hotel, located at 212 West St. in the heart of the Riverwalk district on the Truckee River, includes an indoor swimming pool, large rooftop deck, private bar, guest lounge, banquet room, fitness room and conference room. Previously a timeshare resort, the new hotel is looking to attract corporate and leisure travelers who want a more exclusive and quiet guest experience. News 4, 10/19/17

Meeting Planner “Must-Haves”

By Heather Tanfani, CMP



Laptop Bags

Shouldn't your laptop bag be as stylish as you? Keep your most important possession protected and organized in a beautifully crafted, easily accessible and convenient to transport technology handbag. Clark & Mayfield is a small business in Portland Oregon that creates a variety of bags to fit many laptop and tablet sizes. I can attest to their quality and durability owning my first bag for many years and now recently purchasing my second. My favorite components are the outside pocket for my phone, padded inside and metal feet. www.clarkandmayfield.com

Price: \$49 - \$500



Blue Tooth Tracker

Although we are the most organized profession, we are also the busiest, so save time placing a blue tooth tracker on your easy to misplace items. Bluetooth trackers let you use a smartphone app to monitor the location of whatever they're attached to, and the Tile models have—by far—the best Bluetooth range. You can also remotely trigger a sound on the tracker to locate it when you're nearby (when you've misplaced your keys at a large conference), and the Tile trackers are the loudest and easiest to hear. When your tracker is out of Bluetooth range, the crowd-finding feature lets other people help you locate your item. The Tile has the largest crowd-finding network of its kind and look better than most. Great as a unique corporate gift!

www.thetileapp.com/en-us/

Price \$35



Great Gift Ideas too!

Portable Phone Charger

Don't lose your charge! When you are on the go at an event, you don't have time to stop to charge your phone. An easy solution is a portable phone charger that is not too bulky. The integrated Micro-USB and Lightning-connector cables make it convenient to carry every day, for every device. The aluminum body is the size of a bar of soap, and the Bolt has enough power to charge a midsize smartphone twice.

<http://www.jackery.com/>

Price \$25



What's your favorite Meeting Planner Must Have?

Share your ideas with Heather Tanfani, CMP

ht@eventswebpage.com

www.eventswebpage.com



Before you turn the page...

IMPORTANT STUFF

Save these Dates!

More details coming soon!

Jan. 25 ☞ **Coffee, Cocktails and Content**

@ The Red Rabbit

Feb. 7 ☞ **Crab Feed**

@ The Dante Club

Feb. 20 ☞ **Education Luncheon**

@ Hyatt Regency

Feb. 20 ☞ **Meeting Planner Boot Camp Basics**

@ Hyatt Regency

April 12 ☞ **Annual Trade Show and Workshop**
commemorating *Global Meetings Industry Day*

@ The Sawyer Hotel

A few policy reminders...

1. **Non-members may attend up to two (2) chapter events.** Thereafter, membership will be required.

Formerly, this policy read "up to three education events."

Now, attendance at any event is counted towards the maximum limit of 2. If you have colleagues in your workplace who would like to attend MPISSN events or programs, they must identify 2 programs to attend and register as a non-member. Please share this policy and help friends and colleagues understand our policy.

Note: *Coffee, Cocktails & Content, MPISSN's workshop at Seasonal Spectacular, and Global Meetings Industry Day are NOT counted in the 2 events. These are open to all due to either the casual/informal nature of CCC, or the partnership aspect with like organizations.*

2. **Membership and attendance lists will no longer be available before or after our programs and events.**

They will solely be provided to premier members, and sponsors who enjoy this benefit as a part of their partnership agreement.

3. **Your membership belongs to the individual!**

Colleagues in your workplace may not receive member rates or benefits. So while we encourage their attendance at 2 events per year (and eventual membership) they must pay the **non-member rate**.

*Read it,
know it,
use it!*



SAVE THESE LOGIN instructions

STAY UP TO DATE AT WWW.MPISSN.ORG!

Website Login Instructions

Login/Passwords

For the membership log-in areas, your login username is your last name and your password is your MPI membership number given to you from headquarters in Dallas.

Example

Login: Smith (be sure to capitalize the first letter of your last name)

Password: 222222 (member number - your number may be 5-7 digits)

Some of our members have identical last names. If you are one please use this slightly different method.

Example

Login: SmithA (be sure to capitalize the first letter of your last name AND your first initial)

Password: 222222 (member number - your number may be 5-7 digits)

If you need help logging in, please contact lynette@mpissn.org or (916) 509-7270.

Thank You to our Key Partners!

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MPISSN values these Key Partners! Their support helps MPISSN strengthen and expand upon our member commitment.

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