

SMOFCon 37

FANNISH INQUISITION QUESTIONNAIRE

Who will represent your convention at MAC II and how can they be contacted?

A: Lisa Garrison, Dale Mazzola, Kim Williams info@columbus2020nasfic.org

What are the dates for your convention?

A: 8/19/2020 will be the move in day and the convention itself will be held, 8/20-23/2020.

Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb?

A: City Center

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as Auckland, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Dublin, Helsinki, London, Los Angeles, Melbourne?

A: Prices vary greatly with each airline.

- Is your closest airport a hub for a major carrier? 36% of all passenger flights are Southwest
- Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Yes
- If not, where is the closest international airport?
- Which airlines service your airport? All of the major carriers as well as Spirit
- Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport? Of the cities above, there are direct flights to Columbus from Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles. All international flights have at least one stop both inbound and outbound.

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?

A: 8 miles/10 minutes. AirConnect, run by Central Ohio Transit Authority, is express shuttle service between the John Glenn Columbus International Airport and downtown hotels. \$2.75 each way. Ridesharing and public bus service is also available.

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention?

A: Our hotel is the Sheraton Capitol Square in Downtown Columbus

- Are there any accessibility issues? No
- What are your hotel room rates? \$129 a night
- Do these rates include breakfast? No
- Do they include internet in the room? Yes
- What is the distance from the main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? Connected/ All in-house at the hotel; You can walk from the hotel space through the bar on the second floor right into the convention space.
- What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties? Bus, Uber, Lyft, Taxi

Please describe your convention site facilities. For example, the quantity and sizes of function rooms, tech options, accessibility issues, etc.

Capitol Boardroom – Security/Office HQ

Director's Boardroom – Program Ops/Green Room

Legislative A – Gaming, 1023 sq ft

Legislative B – Programming 1023 sq ft

Congressional – Art Show & Exhibits (including Fanzines) 3200 sq ft

Senate B – Programming 420 sq ft

Senate A – Programming 483 sq ft

Judicial – Filk 1284 sq ft

Governors AB – Dealers 4000 sq ft

Governors CDE – Main Events 2000 sq ft

House A – Programming 440 sq ft

House B – Programming 418 sq ft

Executive A - Logistics/Tech Operations 396 sq ft

Executive B – Programming 462 sq ft

Executive C – Programming 418 sq ft

Legislative Foyer – Registration 1500 sq ft

Where will your large events (for example the Awards Ceremonies and Masquerade) be held?
Governors Ballroom CDE

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

A: Columbus is a foodie force to be reckoned with. The capital city's incredible culinary scene features top-ranked chefs, a rich farm-to-table movement, one-of-a-kind restaurants and creative artisan desserts, beers, wines and spirits. Consistently gaining national recognition, there are more than 100 restaurants in walking distance of the Sheraton Capitol Square and convention center, with the largely local options ranging from fast-casual to fine-dining and everything in between. On-site Hotel Restaurants: The Plaza Restaurant and Plaza Lounge
Off-site: Jeni's Ice Cream, Mike's Late Night Slice, Dirty Franks, Max & Erma's, Jeff Rubys, Black Pointe, Hyde Park, Martini, BD's Mongolian BBQ, Boston's Pizza, Flat Iron, Nada, among others. We will have a thorough restaurant guide available for all attendees. There are also Food Delivery Services like Amazon Eats, Uber Eats, Door Dash and Grubhub that will deliver to the hotel.

What are the policies/laws regarding smoking at your:

- Hotel(s): Non-Smoking
- Convention Center: No smoking within 25' of a door or window and no smoking inside the building at all.
- City: Statewide ban on smoking in public places and places of employment. No smoking within 25' of a door or window and no smoking inside buildings at all.

What type of weather can we expect at the time of year your convention is to be held?
Various days of sunny to cloudy, 84/62 with an average of 7 rainy days of the month.

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

A: Columbus Commons, Ohio Statehouse, Center of Science & Industry (COSI) - #1 in the country, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus Clippers (AAA-Baseball), German Village, Short North Arts District, Wexner Center for the Arts, Franklin Park Conservatory, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium -#1 in

the country, Thurber House, National Veterans Memorial & Museum, The Ohio State University, Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space?

A: There are 3 Jr Suites available to socializing events. We will have a system in place to ensure those that want to throw parties have the support they need so as to minimize problems. There are 3 Jr Suites available to socializing events.

Do you have a corkage waiver and a forklage waiver?

A: This is not necessary due to the fact that all socializing events will take place in private rooms.

Do you currently have a code of conduct in place for your bid/convention?

If so, what is it?

A: Our parent corporation is the SOLAE (Science Oriented Literature, Art and Education) Foundation and NASFiC 2020 will abide by their Code of Conduct and their Accessibility Policy.

Below is the content of those policies:

Code of Conduct:

We do not tolerate harassment of the people at our conventions in any form.

In order to take action, the convention needs to know about any incident during that convention.

Everyone is entitled to a harassment-free convention experience, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, or physical appearance.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to, inappropriate physical contact, unwelcome sexual attention, offensive verbal comments, deliberate intimidation, stalking or following someone, making harassing photography or recordings, and disrupting talks or other events. Anyone asked to stop any unacceptable behavior is expected to comply immediately.

A request to "stop" or "go away" means exactly that. If anyone engages in harassing behavior, the convention committee may warn the offender, remove the offender from the room, or expel the offender from the convention with no refund at that convention Chairs' discretion.

If you feel that you are being harassed, or if you notice someone violating hotel or convention policies, we respectfully suggest the following:

1. If you feel comfortable doing so, point out the inappropriate behavior to the persons involved. Often this will solve the problem immediately.
2. If you do not feel comfortable talking with the persons involved or if talking to them does not resolve the issue, please report the situation, in person, immediately to the Operations Staff, or a Convention Committee member. Try to provide a name (found on all badges) and/or a physical description of the person or persons involved.
3. In order to take action, we need to know about any incident during that convention. Accessibility

The philosophy of our Accessibility Policy is about giving equal access to everyone.

1. The hotel and convention space needs to be ADA compliant.
2. They will provide contact information on their web page for those individuals needing ADA-related services, (i.e. interpretation, wheelchairs, special seating, etc.), and a timeline in which those services can realistically be met (ie. "please contact us at least 3 weeks prior and we will attempt to accommodate your needs.")

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for specific groups, such as young adults, military, seniors or families? We currently have a young adult (13-18) rate of \$75 and a child (under age 13) rate of \$50.