

# WELCOME TO NECA 2008 CHICAGO OCT. 4-7, 2008

**Chicago**—easily accessible from anywhere—has been a place where people come together for business ever since the fur traders first settled there in the 18th century. It's still America's #1 destination for overnight business trips.

The vibrant, varied architecture alone can make a simple stroll—or a ride on the EL—a journey of exploration. There are treasures to be found in such diverse neighborhoods as Hyde Park, Pullman Historic District, Near South Side, Chinatown, Pilsen, Little Italy, Printers Row/Grant Park, The Loop, North Michigan Avenue/Oak Street, and beyond.

Aside from incredible architecture, Chicago boasts cosmopolitan culture as well as scenic lakefront beauty. It's the ideal place to bring the kids and to spend a little extra time. Must-see attractions range from historic Navy Pier and brand-new Millennium Park to Lincoln Park Zoo and world-renowned museums, with the Field Museum of Natural History, Shedd Aquarium and Adler Planetarium all centrally located and the Chicago Institute of Art just up the street.

If food's the thing, note that Chicago has been called "America's Best City for Dining" by the National Restaurant Association. Its 5500+ restaurants feature everything from prime steakhouses to the famous deep-dish pizza that bears the city's name and every imaginable ethnic cuisine.

Chicago means business. But, it's also a city pulsating with fun things to see and do!

# WELCOME TO CHICAGO



#### **Opening General Session**

## **Second City, First In Comedy**

Taking their name from a derisive profile of Chicago in *The New Yorker*, an ensemble of young comedians established The Second City on December 16, 1959, with something to prove. And prove it they did!

The Second City alumni list reads like a who's who of American comedy. It includes practically the entire cast of the original Saturday Night Live and many next generation SNLers.

Success was almost instantaneous, and today Second City is the



world's most famous improvisational theater company, earning superlative reviews for theatrical performances across North America and Emmy awards for a number of TV shows.

These funny people may have you rolling in the aisles during our Opening General Session on

Sunday, October 5. Bear in mind, they're using humor to bring you truth and perspective and improvisation to help NECA conventioneers improve communication, collaboration, and innovation—but you may be too busy laughing to notice that immediately!

#### **Closing General Session**

# Bob Costas—Winning Through Teamwork & Fair Play

Broadcaster extraordinaire **Bob Costas** has never played any sport professionally but has a number of trophies—19 Emmy Awards, to be exact—and has been named "National Sportscaster Of The Year" an unprecedented eight times. Since 1979, he has covered every major sport for NBC, including six Major League Baseball Championships, five World Series, four



Super Bowls, and every Olympic outing since 1988.

Along with appearing regularly on NBC's Football Night In America, he has hosted HBO programs since 2001. He is also the author of a book—Fair Ball, A Fan's Case For Baseball—that earned excellent reviews and remained on The New York Times bestseller list for several weeks.

Bob Costas is sure to inspire at our Closing General Session simply by talking about what he knows best and what all NECA conventioneers can apply – the importance of teamwork and fair play, strategic thinking, the love of the game, and winning.



#### **Closing Celebration**

## **Ricky Skaggs and Bruce Hornsby**

What do you get when you blend the voice of a country and bluegrass legend with the creativity of a world-renowned pianist and songwriter? An unforgettable evening that is the perfect finale to a week full of inspiration and fun!

Ricky Skaggs and Bruce Hornsby star at our Closing Celebration. Eleven-time Grammy Award winner Ricky Skaggs is affectionately known as one of bluegrass music's most recognized ambassadors and also has eight Country Music Association Awards and a dozen #1hits to his credit. A triple Grammy winner with album sales in excess of 10 million, Bruce Hornsby has been praised as a virtuoso pianist, singer-songwriter, and bandleader who draws from a wide array of musical influences which he refines with playful lyrical whimsy. On October 7, the Arie Crown Theater will ring with songs from their acclaimed collaborative album and a few surprises, too, exclusively for NECA Conventioneers.





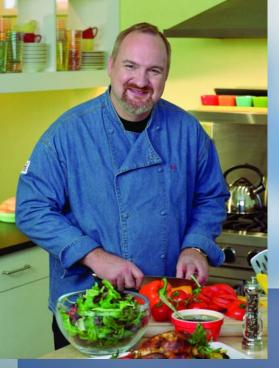


# y at Pier!

It's new, it's exciting, and it's happening at NECA 2008 Chicago. On Saturday, October 4, NECA 2008 Chicago is opening with the Party at the Pier—a night of glitz and glamour you won't want to miss. This event will take you beyond the velvet ropes to the Navy Pier, transformed into an area made for partying. Part swanky nightclub, part jazz lounge, part dance club, this party will be unlike anything you have ever seen.



Entertainment will be provided by The Pink Flamingos, a unique band that has dazzled audiences throughout the U.S. and Europe. Combining audience participation with choreography, outrageously original costuming, and the best of rock, R&B, disco, country, and contemporary music has earned "The Pinks" a reputation as maestros of the magic that brings people together.



# **2008 Lifestyle Program**Cooking with Chef Art Smith

Monday, October 7, 2008, 10 am - 11:30 am

Art Smith, chef, author, and television personality has brought meaning and symbolism back to the word "table" and has united families and friends through the sharing of a meal. Bringing a whole family to the table in today's fast-paced way of life is no easy task. In many modern households, family members eat separately according to their own schedules, on the run, or in front of the TV. But Smith has a few cooking secrets that are guaranteed to make dinner-time a family time, and he is sharing them at NECA 2008 Chicago! On October 7, Chef Art Smith will be conducting an interactive presentation of a few ways to tempt your taste buds and bring your family "back to the table."

Smith's long career in the culinary arts includes positions cooking for families all over the globe, including well-known politicians and celebrities. In 1997, he began an 11-year position as personal chef to Oprah Winfrey. And last year, Smith opened "Table," a new fine dining restaurant in Chicago, where he serves handmade, organic foods gathered from some of the best farms in the Midwest.

Enjoy this one-time opportunity to learn from one of the greatest chefs of our time. It is sure to be a delectable experience!

#### 2008 Schedule of Events

#### Friday, October 3

8:00 am–5:00 pm Pre-Convention Workshops

9:00 am-5:00 pm Tou

#### Saturday, October 4

6:45 am-7:45 am District Breakfasts

8:00 am-4:00 pm Board of Governors Meeting 8:00 am-5:00 pm Pre-Convention Workshops

8:30 am-1:00 pm Tours

12:00 pm–1:30 pm 5:30 pm–6:00 pm 6:00 pm–9:00 pm President's Reception\* Party at the Pier

#### Sunday, October 5

8:00 am-9:50 am Management Seminars 10:15 am-11:30 am Opening General Session

10:30 am-5:00 pm New and Featured Product Room

11:30 am-5:00 pm NECA Show

**Technical Workshops** 

12:00 pm–1:00 pm Student Chapter Summit 6:00 pm–7:30 pm Academy Reception\*

#### Monday, October 6

7:00 am-8:00 am Committee Breakfasts

1:00 pm-5:30 pm Tours

8:00 am–9:50 am Management Seminars

10:00 am-11:30 am Lifestyle Program

10:00 am–11:30 pm Labor Relations Town Hall Meeting

10:30 am–4:00 pm New and Featured Product Room

11:30 am-4:00 pm NECA Show

Technical Workshops International Lunch

12:15 pm–1:15 pm International Lunch 12:30 pm–2:00 pm EMI Reunion Luncheon\* 1:30 pm–3:30 pm ELECTRI Council Meeting

4:00 pm-5:00 pm Future Industry Leaders Reception\*
6:30 pm-8:30 pm ELECTRI International Reception\*

#### Tuesday, October 7

7:00 am–8:00 am Workforce Development

**Committee Breakfast** 

7:30 am–8:45 am Management Seminars 9:00 am–10:15 am Closing General Session

9:00 am-1:00 pm New and Featured Product Room

10:00 am-2:00 pm NECA Show

**Technical Workshops** 

2:00 pm Grand Prize Drawing 8:00 pm Closing Celebration

by invitation only



### **Convention Hotels**



**Drake Hotel** 140 E. Walton Place



**Ritz-Carlton** Chicago 160 East Pearson Street



**Westin River** North 320 N. Dearborn



**Fairmont Chicago** 200 North Columbus Drive



**Palmer House** Hilton 17 East Monroe



Swissôtel Chicago 323 E. Wacker **Drive** 



**Hilton Chicago** 720 South **Michigan Avenue** 



**Hyatt McCormick** Place **2233 S. Martin** Luther King Drive

**McCormick Place Lakeside Center** 2301 S. Lake Shore Drive

#### **Good Eats!**

#### **Close to McCormick Place:**

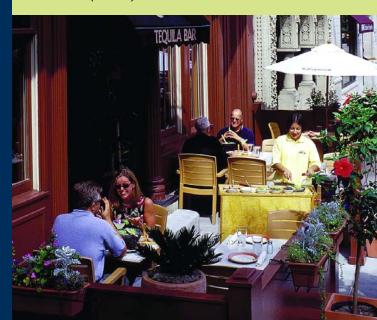
Chicago Firehouse 312-786-1401 Gioco (Italian) 312-939-3870 Zapatista's (Mexican) 312-435-1307

**Downtown:** 17 West 312-427-3170 (formerly known as The Berghoff) Bin 36 (great wine and food) 312-755-9463 Carmine's (Italian) 312-988-7676 Carnivale 312-850-5005 (Latin-fun music, great atmosphere) Giordano's 773-947-0200 (famous Chicago pizza) Gibsons Steakhouse (Steak) 312-266-8999 Gene & Georgetti's (Steak) 312-527-3718 Keefer's Restaurant 312-467-9525 (great American food) Rockit (fun bar, great food) 312-645-6000 312-595-2300

Sushi Samba (Sushi) **Table** 312-573-4000

(Chef Art Smith's Restaurant)

Volare (Italian) 312-410-9900



#### **Find Out More!**

To receive a detailed brochure about NECA 2008 Chicago, please contact Katie at NECA Convention & Exposition: tel 301-215-4506 email kmn@necanet.org

#### **NECA Show Hours**

 Sunday, October 5, 2008
 11:30 am-5:00 pm

 Monday, October 6, 2008
 11:30 am-4:00 pm

 Tuesday, October 7, 2008
 10:00 am-2:00 pm

#### **New and Featured Product Room Hours**

Saturday, October 5, 2008 10:30 am-5:00 pm Sunday, October 6, 2008 10:30 am-4:00 pm Monday, October 7, 2008 9:00 am-1:00 pm

### m/Lake

# **NECA 2008 Chicago Fees**

**Convention Registration in the NECA Room Block:** 

Member: Member \$825, Spouse \$335 (Member \$895, Spouse \$375 after August 10th)

Non-member: \$1075

Convention Registration outside the NECA Room Block: add \$155 to the registration fees above

n NECA Show Only: \$75

Management Seminars Only: \$450



#### National Electrical Contractors Association

3 Bethesda Metro Center Suite 1100 Bethesda, MD 20814 tel: 301-215-4506

fax: 301-215-4553

www.necaconvention.org kmn@necanet.org

Register online! www.necaconvention.org

Registration opens June 2.

## **Quick Facts**

What to wear: business casual, comfortable shoes recommended

**Party at the Pier:** cocktail party serving heavy hors d'oeuvres; jackets requested. Bus provided; if you plan to take a taxi, have it drop you off at the end of the pier.

Closing Celebration: cash bar, business attire

**Taxi fare from Airport to Hotels:** ranges from \$55 to \$60 (plus tip) from O'Hare

Name of Convention Center: McCormick Place Lakeside Center