



OFFICIAL ATTENDEE GUIDE

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

DATES	July 15–18, 2026 (Wednesday – Saturday)
VENUE	Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport
ADDRESS	1717 Airport Exchange Blvd., Erlanger, Kentucky 41018
PHONE	(859) 371-2233
WEBSITE	vhconvention.com

The world's largest annual gathering of ventriloquists — professionals, hobbyists, collectors, and fans from across the globe. Four extraordinary days of world-class performances, hands-on workshops, an incredible Dealers' Rooms, and lifelong friendships.

FEATURING: Jeff Dunham · Darci Lynne Farmer · Jay Johnson · Willie Tyler · Jack Williams · Lynn Trefzger · Taylor Mason · Andy Gross · Max Fulham · Jim Barber · and many more!

facebook.com/ventconvention · vhconvention.com · Presented with the support of meetNKY — Northern Kentucky Visitors Bureau

JULY 15 – 18, 2026 · HOLIDAY INN CINCINNATI AIRPORT · ERLANGER, KENTUCKY

REGISTRATION OPENS 2:00 PM WEDNESDAY · RESTAURANT AREA · NEW LOCATION THIS YEAR

WELCOME — EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

Whether this is your first ConVENTion or your fiftieth, we're thrilled you're here. 2026 marks our historic 50th Anniversary — four days of world-class performances, hands-on workshops, the Dealers' Rooms, and connections that last a lifetime.

FIRST TIMERS: ORIENTATION SESSION

Wednesday, July 15 · 4:00 PM · Hamilton Room — Essential for newcomers. Meet the team, get oriented, feel right at home.

REGISTRATION

★ **NEW LOCATION** ★ Restaurant Area — upper right corner (see map).
New even for veteran attendees!

★ **OPENS AT 2:00 PM** ★ One hour earlier than previous years!

YOUR BADGE = YOUR TICKET

- ✓ All performances & the Showroom
- ✓ All Dealers' Rooms
- ✓ All workshops & lectures
- ✓ Vent Haven Museum (Saturday)

HOTEL & CONTACT

Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport

1717 Airport Exchange Blvd., Erlanger, Kentucky 41018
(859) 371-2233

Free airport shuttle from CVG (~15 min). Pool, spa, fitness center, restaurant.

CONTACT INFO

Executive Director: Al Getler · al@venthaven-convention.com

Media / Press: Anne B. Roberts · annebroberts23@gmail.com

Vent Haven Museum: curator@venthaven.org

VENT HAVEN MUSEUM

The world's only museum dedicated to ventriloquism. 33 West Maple Avenue, Fort Mitchell, KY 41011 (use for GPS/UBER/LYFT). Free shuttle Saturday — every 30 min from 11:45 AM. Also open Wed (10 AM–Noon) & Thu (11:45 AM–1 PM) with own transportation. Badge required. No video or selfie sticks inside.

50TH ANNIVERSARY MILESTONES

1973 W.S. Berger's massive collection was officially opened to the public as VENT HAVEN and since then has more than doubled in size as its name and reputation have spread worldwide.

1975 The inaugural Vent Haven ConVENTion brings together ventriloquists from across the nation for the first time.

1990s ConVENTion grows into an international event welcoming attendees from dozens of countries.

2026 The 50th Anniversary Golden Celebration — four extraordinary days honoring a half-century of artistry, community, and laughter.

"Fifty years of voices, laughter, and the magic of bringing characters to life. Welcome to ConVENTion 2026 — where legends and newcomers share the same stage."

MEAL PLAN & DINING

The meal plan uses a color-coded system on the back of your badge. This keeps service fast. Keep it attached at all times.

- 1 Complete your ConVENTion registration.
- 2 Visit the Concierge Desk (right of Front Desk) to pick up your color-coded meal plan package.
- 3 Attach the color-coded card to the back of your badge.
- 4 Present your badge at each buffet entrance — the color determines your service line.

Dining options: Meal Plan · Cash & Carry · Hotel Restaurant

CONCIERGE DESK

Located to the right of the Front Desk. Pick up your meal plan package here after registration.

Wednesday 1:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Thursday 7:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Friday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Saturday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

WHAT TO BRING

- Your puppet — workshops are hands-on!
- A sweater — the AC can be cold
- Cash and cards for Dealers' Rooms
- Camera (personal use in common areas)
- Comfortable shoes for four busy days
- Your sense of humor — it's contagious here



Scan this QR for the
schedule with updates.

SAVE THE DATES FOR THE 2027 ConVENTion

JULY 14 – 17, 2027

Schedule subject to change. Check Concierge Desk for updates. · vhconvention.com

2026 ConVENTion SCHEDULE · JULY 15-18

All events in the Showroom unless noted. Schedule subject to change — check QR code on your name tag for updates.

WEDNESDAY · JULY 15

10:00 AM	Vent Haven Museum Open — own transportation required, badge required
2:00 PM ★	REGISTRATION OPENS — Restaurant Area, upper right corner · NEW LOCATION · ONE HOUR EARLIER
2:00 PM	Sign Up for General Open Mic — Lower Lobby
4:00 PM	First Timers Orientation — Hamilton Room · ALL FIRST-TIMERS ATTEND
4:00 PM	100 Club Reception & Prize Drawing — Showroom
5:00-7:00	Dinner (Meal Plan / Cash & Carry / Restaurant)
7:15 PM	Official Opening Ceremony — John S. Brooking & Al Getler
7:30 PM	50th Anniversary Wednesday Kickoff — Mike Hemmelgarn & Darci Lynne Farmer · MC: Jay Johnson
9:00 PM	LECTURE: "Ventriloquism Essentials For All" — Dan Horn
9:45 PM	The Dealer's Show
10:15 PM	Dealers' Rooms Open

THURSDAY · JULY 16

7:30-9:00	Breakfast
9:00 AM	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony — Al Getler, Vent Haven Board, meetNKY, Hotel Management
9:10 AM	The 50th Anniversary Book — Lisa Sweasy & Marjorie Engesser
9:15 AM	Lecture: Ventriloquism the Great Lester Way — Jay Johnson
10:30 AM	Lecture: Using Music in Your Act — Darci Lynne Farmer & Willie Tyler
11:45 AM	Lunch · Dealers' Rooms Open · Museum Open (own transportation)
12:00 PM	Comedy Master Class — Darren Carr (+\$30, covers all 3 days) · Hamilton Room
1:15-2:30	Junior Talent Showcase — Host: Dale Brown · Coaches: Mark Wade, Gary Owen, Dan Horn
2:45-4:00	Senior Talent Showcase — Host: Maegen Hall · Coaches: Lynn Trefzger, Ken Groves, Dan Horn
4:30 PM	Jeff Dunham Lecture
6:00-7:30	Dinner · Dealers' Rooms Open
8:00 PM	50th Anniversary Thursday Night Bash — Jack Williams · Lynn Trefzger · Taylor Mason · MC: Jim Barber
10:00 PM	General Open Mic — Jeff Goltz · Dealers' Rooms Open until Midnight

FRIDAY · JULY 17

7:30-9:00	Breakfast
9:00-10:30	Junior Vent University — Lynn Trefzger, Maegen Hall, Jeff Goltz — Dearborn Room
9:00-11:00	Creating a New Character — Taylor Mason, Austin Phillips, Stephen Knowles, Nick Pawlow & Dennis Acosta · Showroom
12:15 PM	Group Photo — Hotel Lobby · PLEASE BE ON TIME
12:30-2:00	Lunch · Dealers' Rooms Open
12:30 PM	Comedy Master Class — Darren Carr (+\$30) · Hamilton Room
2:00-3:15	How to Build a Show — Max Fulham
3:30-4:45	Bringing Your Character to Life — Jack Williams & Dan Horn · Host: Jay Johnson
5:00-7:15	Dinner · Dealers' Rooms Open
7:15 PM	50th Anniversary International Show — Indushree Raveendra (India) · Sari Aalto (Finland) · Jack Wise (Ireland) · Host: Steveo (Germany)
9:00 PM	50th Anniversary Raffle & Remembering Tom Ladshaw — Steve Axtell & Lisa Sweasy
10:30 PM	General Open Mic — Jeff Goltz · Showroom
10:30 PM-Midnight	Dealers' Rooms Open
11:00 PM	Vent Videos — Max Fulham (Dearborn Room)

SATURDAY · JULY 18

7:30-9:00	Breakfast
8:30-11:30	Creativity Workshops (Repeat 10:15 AM) · Walk Around Vent — Bob Rumba (Hamilton) · Social Media — Meghan Casey (Boone) · Distant Voice — Andy Gross (Kenton)
11:30 AM	Lunch
12:00-3:00	Dealers' Rooms Open · Museum Shuttle Tours every 30 min from 11:45 AM (sign up at registration)
12:00 PM	Comedy Master Class — Darren Carr (+\$30) · Hamilton Room
3:45-4:45	Workshop: Double Rod Arm Manipulation — Bring Your Puppet! — Dan Horn
5:00-7:00	Dinner · Dealers' Rooms Open
7:30 PM	50 YEARS OF SATURDAY NIGHT — GRAND FINALE Max Fulham · Willie Tyler · MC: Jeff Dunham · 50th Anniversary Cake & Reception

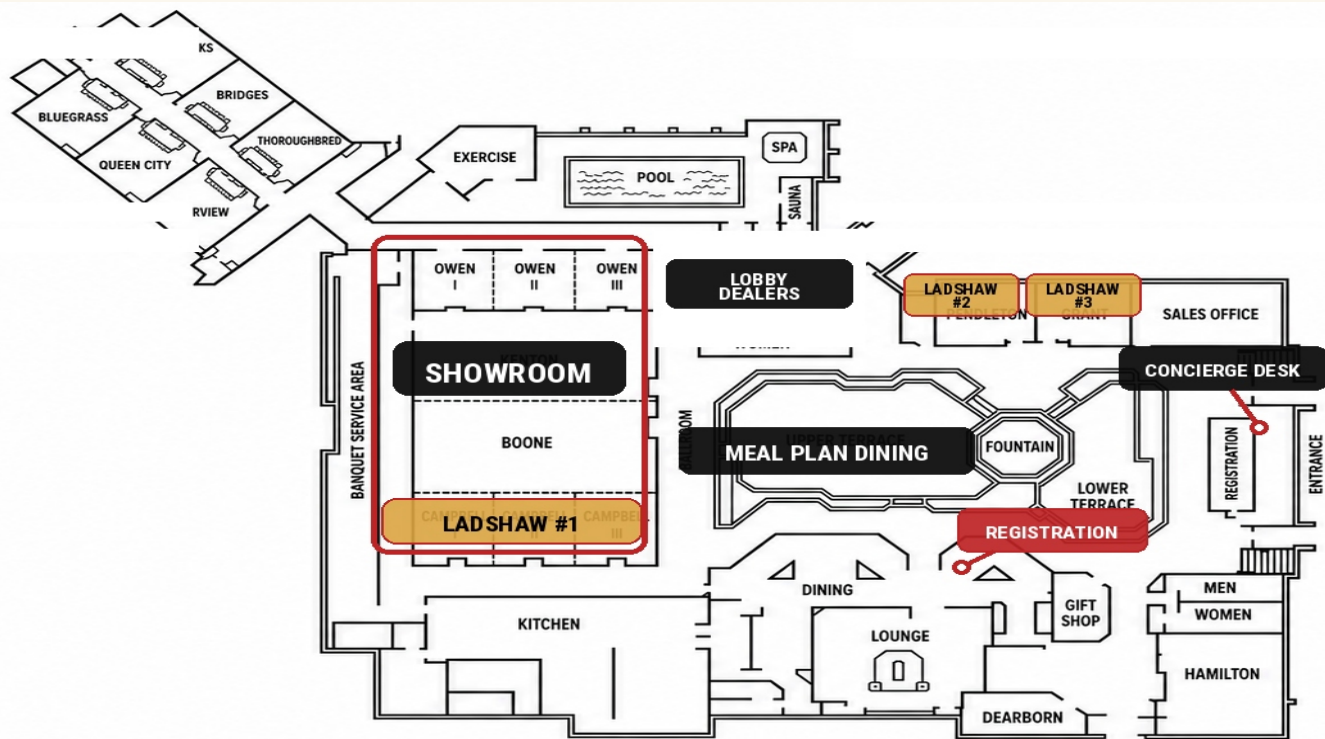
DEALERS' MARKETPLACE · Badge required for entry

LADSHAW #1	LADSHAW #2	LADSHAW #3	LOWER LOBBY
Vent Haven Museum Tom Ladshaw Tables Axtell Expressions MAT Puppets Chuck Lyons Dan Horn / Dennis Acosta Jeff Goltz Dan Christopher – Sound Smith Handersen Scott Correll	JET Puppets Paul Burnham Anthony Hughes	Buck's Magic Ethan and His Dollies Marc Rubin Dan Puppet Z	Siggy Photography Scott Bryte Willie Tyler

OPEN MIC NIGHTS — HOW DOES IT WORK?

You will be given a chance to sign up for Open Mic Nights during registration (see schedule). You should have a tight 5-minute routine, and the material should be family-friendly. The atmosphere is fun and welcoming and designed to give you a rare chance to perform in front of your peers. Our younger participants will be placed earlier in the line-up given the time of night.

HOLIDAY INN CINCINNATI AIRPORT — VENUE MAP



SHOWROOM	Boone, Kenton & Owen I/II/III — Main performances & lectures
LADSHAW #1	Campbell I, II & III — Dealers' Room 1
LADSHAW #2	Pendleton — Dealers' Room 2
LADSHAW #3	Grant — Dealers' Room 3
LOBBY DEALERS	Lower Lobby — Photography, Art, Merchandise

REGISTRATION	Restaurant area, upper right corner — opens 2:00 PM Wednesday
CONCIERGE DESK	Right of the Front Desk — meal plan pickup & assistance
MEAL PLAN DINING	Upper Terrace — color-coded meal plan dining area
HAMILTON ROOM	First Timers Orientation & overflow sessions
DEARBORN ROOM	Junior Vent University & Vent Videos

FIRST TIMER'S TIPS

Dress comfortably. Casual attire is the norm. Bring a sweater — AC is cold. July outdoors: 80–90°F.

Sign up early. Open Mic and shuttle seats fill fast. Sign up at registration.

Badge on always. Checked at every event, room, and door.

Museum shuttle. Free Saturday from 11:45 AM, every 30 min. Sign up at registration.

Shop early. Popular items sell fast. Visit Dealers' Rooms at first opportunity.

Group Photo. Friday 12:15 PM · Hotel Lobby · Be on time!

Stay informed. Check the QR code on your name tag and on page 2 of this guide.

No recording. Audio/video of lectures and performances **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** without Media Badge.

Family friendly. All Open Mic routines must be appropriate for all ages.

MEDIA RELEASE & PHOTO POLICY

NOTICE OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RECORDING

By attending the Vent Haven International Ventriloquist ConVENTion 2026 ("the Event"), you acknowledge and agree to the following terms:

1. Consent to Recording. Photography, audio recording, and video recording will take place throughout the Event. By your presence, you grant the ConVENTion and its authorized representatives the irrevocable right to photograph, film, and record your image, voice, and likeness.
2. Use of Media. Images and recordings may be used for promotional, marketing, educational, and archival purposes, without compensation or further notification.
3. Attendee Recording Policy. Recording of lectures, workshops, and performances by attendees is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** without an approved Media Badge. Non-flash personal photography is permitted in common areas. Inside the Vent Haven Museum: no video, selfie sticks, backpacks, food, or beverages.
4. Opt-Out. If you prefer not to be photographed, notify a ConVENTion staff member at Registration. We will make reasonable efforts to accommodate your request.
5. Waiver. You waive any right to inspect finished materials incorporating your likeness and release the ConVENTion from any claims arising from the use of your image as described herein.

Press & Media Credentials: Anne B. Roberts · annebroberts23@gmail.com