

Plan to Attend the World's Best Vent Happening!

"Jacko" the monkey is the official mascot of the Vent Haven ConVENTion. See the "real" puppet Jacko at the Vent Haven Museum.



in Erlanger, KY

2024

July 12 - 20

www.venthavenconvention.com

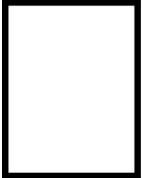
Chuluota, FL 32766

1501 Bluewater Run

2024

Vent Haven ConVENTion

Time Sensitive Material
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www.venthavenconvention.com

CRAFTING
KID FRIENDLY
CHARACTERS

WORKING
COMEDY
CLUBS

FAMILY
SHOW JOKE
WRITING



VENT
COACHING

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ConVENTion 2024

The Mark Wade ExtraVENTganza

Let me start by saying it is my great honor to be your new executive director. Planning a convention of this magnitude is a no easy task and it has been performed amazingly well for the last 23 years under the direction of one man.

So it gives me great pleasure to announce that ConVENTion 2024 will be the Mark Wade ExtraVENTganza an event that will honor this "great man" who has so done so much for the art of ventriloquism, our community, our ConVENTion and our own Vent Haven Museum. The evidence of Mark's impact, passion and dedication to ventriloquism and vents from beginner to the pro is extensive and everywhere.

Together at ConVENTion 2024 we will explore that impact and highlight how influential one passionate person can be and what a tremendous impact they can make (maybe you'll be next). I am overjoyed to have the opportunity to honor Mark and I hope you are excited to come join us as we celebrate the Mark Wade ExtraVENTganza.

Now, Mark is not the only reason to come to ConVENTion in 2024. As the new executive director, I have some fun surprises in store for all of you, not to mention some amazing performances, lectures and opportunities to grow. We have some new faces on shows this year like NIGEL DUNKLEY and MAEGAN HALL. ED THOMAS & HUGO will deliver one of the last big performances of their career live on our stage. We have international vents from Germany, Japan and SHANE WEST from the UK. Friday's FAMILY FUN NIGHT SHOW will be a tribute to Mark's focus on kid show ventriloquism with STEVE PETRA, AL GETLER & BOB ABDU. Fresh off of AGT we have BRYNN CUMMINGS live and longtime ConVENTion veteran vents NICK PAWLOW and STEPHEN KNOWLES.

Something very special this year will be an amazing presentation called "The Genius of Paul Winchell" with Burt Dubrow. Burt Dubrow, multiple Emmy and Cable Ace award winning producer, befriended Paul Winchell and got to know the man more deeply than most. Today, Burt is the premiere Paul Winchell historian. During his session, Burt will give you a whole new appreciation of television, of puppetry, of ventriloquism, and of the artistry of Paul Winchell.

One addition this year, is that we'll be adding an extra night of general open mic to allow more people to get additional stage time or experience what it's like to be on stage as a ventriloquist.

Also, for the first time, we'll be introducing vent round table coaching. An opportunity for vents to get one-on-one feedback from seasoned practitioners. Our goal is to help you leave a better ventriloquist than you came. I could write all day about the amazing stuff we have going on this year. Surprise guests, incredible shows and a positively power packed event guaranteed to have you pleased you ever picked up a puppet.

This will be a historic four days of connection, education and entertainment and you don't want to miss being part of it. A chance to reconnect, learn, laugh and grow. There's no other place in the world where vents can come together and be "at home." This is your place. We are your people. Come join us in the fun and support of our art, community and Vent Haven.

See you in July,

Jimmy Vee
Executive Director
Vent Haven ConVENTion



JUNIOR/SENIOR OPEN MIC INFO

- Each category will have 8 participants, with two alternates in each division. To apply for one of the eight spots the attendee must email the Executive Director at jimmy@ventconvention.com on March 8, 2024 by 10 AM Eastern Standard Time in the United States. The first 8 messages the Executive Director receives at 10 AM requesting entrance in the respective Open Mic session will be accepted, with two alternates also being accepted. The order of the lists will be determined by the way they are received in the Executive Director's email inbox.
- The time limit will be 5 minutes for a routine.
- After the performer completes his or her routine they will be led to the front of the stage by the MC to receive their comments.
- We will have three critique officials review each performance and all three officials will give the performer comments for improvement and encouragement. A spot up front will be provided for the performer's designated videographer or camera person to record ONLY that person's performance and comments. Immediately after this performer has received his or her comments, the video person must vacate the designated seat for the next performer's video person.
- A ballot for a "People's Choice Award" will be given to each person ATTENDING the open mic session to vote for their top TWO favorites in each division. These ballots will be given out at the door and will be turned in to the Hospitality people who will be collecting the ballots. You cannot leave and then return to the session with your ballot. The ballots will be tallied by the critique officials.
- The first and second place winners in each division will a special award and all participants will be given a "Certificate of Participation".
- ANY campaigning beforehand will result in the participant in question being disqualified from winning.
- Good Luck to all and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Executive Director Jimmy Vee at jimmy@ventconvention.com

Vent Haven ConVENTion 2024

July 17-20 • HOLIDAY INN CINCINNATI AIRPORT • ERLANGER, KY

Vent Haven ConVENTion 2024 - Schedule of Events

WEDNESDAY

- 2:30 PM - Vent Meet and Greet
- 3:00 PM - Registration Opens
- 4:00 PM - First Timers Orientation
- 4:45 PM - Sign Up for General Open Mic
- 5:00-7:15 PM - DINNER
- 7:15 PM - Official Opening with John S. "Brook" Brooking, President of Vent Haven Museum, and Jimmy Vee Executive Director of Vent Haven ConVENTion
- 7:45 PM - "BIG WEDNESDAY NIGHT SHOW" MC Jeff Goltz with Nigel Dunkely, Maegan Hall and Ed Thomas & Hugo
- 9:00 PM - 9:45 PM LECTURE: "Vent 101" with Dan Horn
- 9:45 PM - Dealers' Rooms Open
- 10:30 PM - GENERAL OPEN MIC with MC Gina Meder & Corn Dog
- 10:30 PM - Round Table Vent Coaching with Bob Abdou, Trish Dunn, Lori Bruner & Jeff Goltz

THURSDAY

- 9:00 AM - Greeting from Jimmy Vee, Executive Director
- 9:15 AM - LECTURE: "An Interview with Mark Wade -The King of Kid Show Ventriloquism"
- 10:30 AM - LECTURE: "Jump Start Your Imagination: Going Beyond Ordinary Characters & Puppets" with Nick Pawlow
- 11:45-1:00 PM - LUNCH - Dealers' Rooms Open
- 1:15-2:30 PM - JUNIOR OPEN MIC - MC Dale Brown
- 3:00-4:15 PM - SENIOR OPEN MIC - MC Al Getler
- 4:30 PM - LECTURE: "The Genius of Paul Winchell with Burt Dubrow"
- 5:45 -7:00 PM - DINNER - Dealers' Rooms Open
- 7:00 PM - INTERNATIONAL SHOW MC-Stevo Schuling (Germany) with Querni (Germany), PonChan Ichiza (Japan), Shane West (Britain)
- 9:00 PM - "VENT HAVEN - MARK WADE'S INFLUENCE" with Lisa Sweasy & Annie Roberts
- 10:30 PM - GENERAL OPEN MIC w/ MCs Lori Bruner & Trish Dunn
- 10:30 PM - Midnight- Dealers' Rooms Open
- 10:30 PM - Round Table Vent Coaching with Al Getler, Steve Petra, Ed Thomas, Megan Hall

FRIDAY

- 9:00 -10:30 AM - Junior Vent University with Al Getler, Lynn Trefzger-Joy and Jeff Goltz
- 9:00 -10:15 AM - Blockbuster Workshops **"The Many Faces of Ventriloquism Panel"** Moderator Dan Sachoff (Social), Nigel Dunkley (Street), Mike Palma (Retirement), Mark Wade (Kid & School)
- **"Joke Writing for Family Shows"** with Bob Abdou

FRIDAY - (cont.)

"How to Write Off Your Hobby & Set Up Your Business for Profit" with Trish Dunn

- 10:30 -11:45 AM - Repeat of Blockbuster Workshops
- 12:00 PM - (Taken exactly at 12:15!) GROUP PHOTO (Hotel Lobby)
- 12:30 - 1:45 PM - LUNCH - Dealers' Rooms Open
- 1:45 - 3:00 PM - 2nd Group of Blockbuster Workshops **"Comedy Club Ventriloquism"** with Jeff Goltz and Jake LaMarca
- **"Crafting Kid-Friendly Characters & Routines"** with Steve Petra
- **"Getting The Gig"** (Panel) – Moderator Lori Bruner with Jeremy Lepak, Jacki Manna, Bob Abdou
- 3:15 - 4:30 PM - Repeat of 2nd Group of Blockbuster Workshops
- 4:45 - 5:30 PM - LECTURE - "How To Become Unforgettable" with Stephen Knowles
- 5:45 - 7:30 PM - DINNER – Dealers' Rooms Open
- 7:30 PM - FAMILY FUN NIGHT SHOW MC Jimmy Vee with Steve Petra, Al Getler & Bob Abdou
- 9:00 PM - Vent Haven Raffle
- 10:15 PM - GENERAL OPEN MIC with MC Vinny Ewart
- 10:15 PM - Midnight - Dealers' Rooms Open
- 10:15PM - Round Table Vent Coaching w/ Dan Sachoff, Jimmy Vee, Mike Palma, Stephen Knowles

SATURDAY

- 9:00 AM - NOON - Tours to The Vent Haven Museum
- 9:00 AM - NOON - Classic Vent Movies (Main Room)
- 12:00 - 2:00 PM - LUNCH - Dealers' Rooms Open
- 2:00 - 4:30 PM - Mark Wade Story Hour
- 4:30 - 7:00 PM - DINNER - Dealers' Rooms Open
- 7:00 PM - FAMILY FUN NIGHT SHOW MC Dan Sachoff with Brynn Cummings, Nick Pawlow & Stephen Knowles



Please Note: Events can sometimes change at the last minute and that causes the schedule to be altered slightly. In the unlikely event that something does change, we will make every effort to be sure you, in the Vent Community, are informed. Thanks!

ConVENTion Location

The Vent Haven ConVENTion site is at the Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport, 1717 Airport Exchange Blvd, Erlanger, KY 41018

TO REGISTER FOR YOUR ROOM: To be eligible to get a room at our special rate of \$120.00 plus tax per night at the Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport, you must first be fully registered for the ConVENTion. You can either mail in the registration, along with the fees, or go to venthavenconvention.com and register electronically. After we receive payment we will send you a confirmation email that will give you a passkey code. The room reservations are being handled by the Northern Kentucky Visitor and Convention Bureau. and makes sure you will be in the main hotel instead of an overflow hotel.

Dealers' Rooms

Vent Haven ConVENTion 2024 is pleased to announce that we will again have TWO full Dealers' Rooms available with over 25 Vent Dealers on hand. The two rooms are located on each end of the International Ball Room: Rooms V and VI and Rooms I and II.

Driving/Flight Information

The ConVENTion site (Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport) is located in Northern Kentucky, just eight miles south of Cincinnati, Ohio. If you're driving up from the south, take I-75 North and then take I-275 West for one mile. Then Exit 2 to the hotel. From the north, take I-75 South until you get to I-275 West, go west one mile and take Exit 2. The nearest airport is the Greater Cincinnati / Northern Kentucky International Airport. (Shuttle Phone 859-371-2233) The hotel is three miles away and offers a free shuttle service to and from the airport.

Additional Information

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE CHANGES in registration for the Junior & Senior Open Mic. **PLEASE REVIEW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY!!**

WE NO LONGER WILL BE TAKING RESERVATIONS BY MAIL. To be eligible to be in the Junior/Senior Open Mic:
- You must be a fully-paid attendee
- The registration will be done by EMAIL

On Friday, March 8, 2024 at 10:00 AM EST (U.S.A.) you can email me your request to be in the Junior or Senior Open Mic Sessions. I will make up the list by the first 8 people in each category that I receive on March 8 (plus 2 alternates will be added to each list).

DO NOT EMAIL IN ADVANCE as I will open my email on that morning at 10:00 AM. This is the most fair way to do this as we have overseas attendees who want to participate but could not get in due to slow delivery time of their regular mail.

GENERAL OPEN MICS: To give more people a chance to perform, we will have three nights of open mic with about 10 participants in each session. There will be a sign-up sheet at our registration area, so look for it when you register. Please prepare & practice something vent related before you come and sign up.

Jimmy Vee's Email Address is:
jimmy@ventconvention.com

Cancellation Policy

NO REFUNDS OR ROLLOVERS WILL BE MADE. In the event you need to cancel, your registration will be donated to the Vent Haven Museum, a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable institution.

Vent Haven ConVENTion

2024

Pre-Registration Form
July 17 - 20, 2024

At the Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport
Erlanger, KY.

Registration Rate: **\$175.00 (U.S.)**
for the principal family member and
\$125 for each immediate family member.

You may register & pay online by visiting
www.venthavenconvention.com

Registration after May 1, 2024
is \$225 / \$175 respectively.

NO REFUNDS OR ROLLOVERS WILL BE MADE. In the event you need to cancel, your registration will be donated to the Vent Haven Museum, a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable institution.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State / Prov. _____

Zip / Postal Code _____ Country _____

Email Address _____

☐ Enclosed is the pre-registration fee of \$ _____
Make checks payable to Vent Haven ConVENTion

☐ Day Rate: **\$85.00 (U.S.)** per person, per day
(if less than entire convention)

☐ Enclosed is **\$115.00 (U.S.)** to reserve one DEALER'S TABLE
☐ plus \$85.00 for a second table. (Maximum 2 Dealer's Tables)

☐ I am attending for the first time

Mail to: Vent Haven ConVENTion
1501 Bluewater Run
Chuluota, FL. 32766