



NATIONAL FEDERATION  
**OF THE BLIND**  
CALIFORNIA

*Live the life you want.*

Welcome to the 2017  
National Federation of the Blind of  
California Convention  
**No Boundaries**



**Release What Holds You Back**

November 2 – November 5, 2017  
Embassy Suites 901 East Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035

### Convention Hosts:

President, Ever Lee Hairston

First Vice-President, Bryan Bashin

Second Vice-President, Robert Stigile

Secretary, Shannon Dillon

Treasurer, Rochelle Houston

Board Members: Karen Steele, Jim Barbour, Charlotte Carroll, Jana Littrell, Tim Elder, Carmen Weatherly, Carla Scroggins

*The National Federation of the Blind is a community of members and friends who believe in the hopes and dreams of the Nation's blind. Every day we work together to help blind people live the lives they want.*

### **Convention Information**

Thursday movie night with snacks; Friday begins with the Vendor Showcase and Exhibit Hall; Friday night Federation Feud Game; Saturday luncheon and Banquet are all included in the \$75 fee. If you prefer to attend only the convention sessions, the fee is \$35.

### **Vendors' Showcase**

The Vendors' Showcase takes place in the Amalfi room from 8:30 am to 9:30 am on Friday, November 3. At the Showcase you will hear vendors describe the current products and services which they will have on display in the Exhibit Hall.

## **Convention Exhibits**

The Exhibit Hall will be open on Friday, November 3rd from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Exhibit tables are located in the Grand Ballroom.

## **Guide Dog Relief Area**

Please take your dogs to the rear of the hotel either through the side door or the front door exit.

## **Chapter & Division Presidents**

Shasta Cascade - Debbie Worstman

San Joaquin - Ken Volonte

San Francisco - Christina Daniels

Tri-Valley - Carl Martin

River City - Tiffany Manosh

Bay Area - Shannon Dillon

At Large - Allison Depner

San Fernando - Robert Stigile

Pathfinders of Los Angeles - Rochelle Houston

Escondido - Yvette Lee

Riverside/San Bernadino - Carmen Weatherly

San Diego - Lisa Irving

California Association of Guide Dog Users (CAGDU) - Tina Thomas

California Association of Blind Students (CABS) - Carla Scroggins

Senior Division - Charlotte Carroll

Diabetes Action Network - Joy Stigile

Inland Empire - Cheryl Thurston

*Please encourage every member to participate in all convention activities!*

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## 2017 National Federation of the Blind of California Convention

### Thursday, November 2

8:00 pm                      Movie and Snacks, “Do You Dream in Color?”  
Pompeii Room

### Friday, November 3

7:30 am – 8:30 am            Registration Packet Pickup  
Area in front of the Grand Ballroom

8:30 am - 9:30 am            Vendor Showcase  
Amalfi Room  
Coordinator, Cheryl Thurston  
Listen to a brief description of products and  
services

9:30 am - 3:30 pm            Exhibit Hall  
Grand Ballroom

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm            Board of Directors meeting  
Amalfi Room

Meetings of the Board of Directors are open to the public. Please join us as we greet our scholarship finalists, and our National Representative, Scott LaBarre, National Federation of the Blind of Colorado President.

## **2017 National Federation of the Blind of California Convention**

### Friday, November 3

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm      Registration Packet Pickup  
Area in front of the Grand Ballroom

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm      Resolutions Committee  
Amalfi Room  
Chairperson, Bryan Bashin

The Resolutions Committee comes together once a year to decide on the policies and direction of the affiliate for the upcoming year.

3:00 pm – 4:15 pm      California Association of Blind Students  
Amalfi Room  
President, Carla Scroggins

4:15 pm – 5:30 pm      California Association of Guide Dog Users  
Amalfi Room  
President, Tina Thomas

5:30 pm - 6:15 pm      Orientation Center for the Blind  
Amalfi Room  
President, David Chan

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm      Registration Packet Pickup  
Area in front of the Grand Ballroom

## **2017 National Federation of the Blind of California Convention**

### Friday, November 3

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm      Federation Feud  
Amalfi Room  
Emcee, Michael Richardson

### Saturday, November 4

9:00 am                      General Session Call to Order  
Grand Ballroom  
President, Ever Lee Hairston

Welcoming Ceremony  
2017 Convention Coordinators, Jim Barbour,  
Christina Daniels, Rochelle Houston

Pledge of Allegiance  
Jim Barbour

NFB Pledge  
Denise Bravell

Invocation  
Carlos Miyares

“God Bless America”  
Rachel Elizabeth Grider

## 2017 National Federation of the Blind of California Convention

### Saturday, November 4

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 9:15 am             | Welcoming Remarks   |
| 9:20 am - 9:30 am   | Student Division Skit   |
| 9:30 am - 10:00 am  | National Report<br>National Representative, Scott LaBarre, National Federation of the Blind of Colorado President |
| 10:00 am – 10:20 am | Braille Enrichment in Literacy and Learning (BELL) Academy<br>Northern California Coordinator,<br>Debbie Worstman |
| 10:20 am – 10:50 am | Why I am a Federationist?<br>Tim Elder, Tiffany Manosh, Rochelle Houston  |
| 10:50 am – 11:05 am | Mike L. Marlin, Director<br>Braille and Talking Book Library<br>California State Library                          |
| 11:05 am – 11:35 am | Employment Panel<br>Moderator, Robert Stigile<br>Shannon Dillon<br>Ahmet Ustunel<br>Elizabeth Campos              |
| 11:35 am - 11:50 am | Philosophy Skit   |



## **2017 National Federation of the Blind of California Convention**

### Saturday, November 4

11:50 am - 11:55 am	Senior Division Skit
11:55 am	Shout out to First Time Attendees
Noon	Adjourn
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Luncheon Special Presentation, Ruth Sager, National Senior Division President Speaker, Christina Daniels Atrium
2:00 pm	General Session resumes Grand Ballroom
2:00 pm - 2:10 pm	President's Report President, Ever Lee Hairston
2:10 pm - 2:20 pm	Douglas G. Towne Chairman, Disability Relations Group
2:20 pm - 2:30 pm	California Association of Guide Dog Users Skit

## **2017 National Federation of the Blind of California Convention**

Saturday, November 4

2:35 pm – 3:45 pm      Round Table Discussions

Topics:

KNFB Reader – Michael Richardson

iPhone for Beginners – Rochelle Houston

iPhone Apps including News Line and BART - Tiffany Manosh

California Dept. of Rehabilitation (DOR) – Joe Xavier, Director

Interview Preparation – Jeannette Stewart

Parents of Blind Children – Debbie Worstman

How to Become a Leader - Ever Lee Hairston

VOTEC – Douglas G. Towne

Blind and Hearing Loss Discussion - Angela Fowler

Legal Issues – Tim Elder

3:45 pm – 4:30 pm      General Session resumes  
 “No Boundaries: Release What Holds You  
 Back”  
 Grand Ballroom

4:30 pm                      Adjourn

## **2017 National Federation of the Blind of California Convention**

### Saturday, November 4

7:00 pm                      Banquet  
Emcee, Bryan Bashin  
Banquet Address, Scott Labarre  
Scholarship Presentation, Jana Littrell  
Auctioneers, Michael Richardson &  
Michael Hingson  
Grand Ballroom

### Sunday, November 5

9:00 am                      General Session  
President, Ever Lee Hairston  
Grand Ballroom

9:10 am – 9:25 am        Elections: Report from Nominating Committee,  
Chairperson, Robert Stigile

9:25 am – 9:40 am        Resolutions  
Chairperson, Bryan Bashin

9:40 am – 9:50 am        Financial Report  
Treasurer, Rochelle Houston

9:50 am – 10:50 am      Chapter Reports - Pledges and Donations

11:00 am                    Adjourn

**Thank you to all of our Vendors and the generous donations from:  
San Diego Foundation  
Charitable Grant Rosen Bien Galvan and Grunfeld, LLP  
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**Thank you to all of the chairpersons and members of the committees  
that have helped to make this convention a success.**

Convention Coordinators – Christina Daniels, Rochelle Houston  
and Jim Barbour

Resolutions Committee - Chairperson Bryan Bashin

Door Prize Committee - Chairperson Carmen Weatherly

Exhibit Hall Committee – Chairperson Cheryl Thurston

Scholarship Committee – Chairperson Jana Littrell

Auction - Chairperson Karen Steele

PAC Committee – Chairperson Michael Hingson