

Local Arrangements Committee Welcome

Welcome to Indianapolis!

As Chair of the local planning committee, I'm thrilled to welcome you to a city notable for its walkable and lively downtown, plus thriving arts and cultural areas connected by our eight-mile Indy Cultural Trail, recently named one of the "52 Places To Go in 2014" around the world by the *New York Times*.

Indy gained much national praise when we hosted the Super Bowl two years ago. In fact, the planning committee for that event was said to have set a bar subsequent Super Bowl planning committees might find difficult to meet. My committee and I hope to have set a similar bar for future 4Cs planning committees.

So let's take a walking tour ...

From the JW Marriott, where many of you are staying, you can walk to hundreds of pubs and restaurants, an indoor shopping mall, several museums, a state park that includes a 3-mile canal loop, several sporting venues, the Indiana Repertory Theatre, a city market, the zoo, and our Soldiers and Sailors Monument on Monument Circle, a symbol of Indianapolis regularly featured when the city is in the national limelight.

Among the museums you can walk to are the Eiteljorg Museum, the Indiana State Museum & IMAX Theater, the Indiana History Center, the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library, and the extremely fun Rhythm! Discovery Center.

Sporting venues within walking distance include Bankers Life Fieldhouse, home court for our Indiana Pacers; Lucas Oil Stadium, where our Indianapolis Colts play; and Victory Field, home to our Triple-A baseball team, the Indianapolis Indians. You can see the baseball field from some of the JWM's windows and it's too bad their season hasn't started because it's a fantastic stadium to watch a ball game in as the view of the city as a backdrop for play is spectacular. Also within walking distance is the NCAA Headquarters and Hall of Champions.

The White River State Park is practically right outside the hotel doors and is home to several of the attractions listed above.

The hotel's enclosed skywalk will take you to the Circle Centre Mall where you can shop for yourself, buy souvenirs for friends and family, or find something to eat among the 125 stores and eateries in this 4-story, enclosed megamall. The skywalk will also let you travel between the two Marriott hotels. Convenient, no?

Still walkable, although some may prefer to go by car or cab, is Mass Ave, an amazing stretch of art galleries, independent retail shops, lively pubs, theaters, and fantastic food; the district has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1981. Here you'll see cool outdoor art and murals, some temporary and some permanent. You can also meander your way past buildings like The Athenaeum built by Bernard Vonnegut, grandfather of Kurt Vonnegut. The German restaurant, the



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Rathskeller, housed in the Athenaeum is worth a visit not only for its food but also its huge selection of German beers and live entertainment. And you won't watch a show in a more interesting theater than either the Phoenix Theatre or Theatre on the Square so check out what's playing at either one and reserve yourself a seat.

Mass Ave is a favorite destination for the locals so ask someone who lives here about this part of our city you don't want to miss. Our planned pub crawl will showcase some of the livelier and more unique watering holes you'll find along the boulevard so we hope many of you will join us for that.

Not walkable even by the most adventurous of us but a must-see is the famous Indianapolis Motor Speedway. While no racing is taking place this weekend, the museum can't be beat if you're a racing fan, a car fanatic, or if you just want to see those bricks all those drivers bend down to kiss.

See our hospitality committee's restaurant and activity guide for the too-numerous-to-mention-here list of restaurants and pubs. We've indicated which ones are walkable and included a price indicator. The guide will also tell you where to find a quick snack, toiletries you forgot to pack, and other essentials. The guide also lists the numerous other attractions I didn't have room to mention in this letter.

I sincerely hope you enjoy your time downtown and/or other places you may visit while attending the convention. Feel free to ask any questions of me, the committee Chairs, or one of the many volunteers who are here to help you enjoy your visit.

Local Committee Chair: Tracy Donhardt, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Exhibits: Pat Harvey, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Registration: Gay Lynn Crossley, Marian University

Information and Hospitality: Mark Latta, Marian University

Room Arrangements Chair: Tiffani Nicole Butler, Ivy Tech Community College

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